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JUDGE MCGRAW PAYS THE FINE.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY GEORGE GREGORY GREGG.

"Jawge," said the reminiscent Deacon, as we sat one day at ease by the dark Tombigbee's muddy tide, where the early Summer breeze made music in the canebrake, and the dogwood's grateful shade reached out to join the merry game the sun and wavelets played; "Thar's a heap o' human natchers in the homeliest kind o' man. In the best an' in the ornier, ever sense the world began. Some kins, you know, are diffrent, like the taulies on the cawn. Dependin' much, as I believe, on the way that men are bawn. One man inherits cussedness, an', like as not, will steal; Another plays his life-game with a squatoed, honest deal. But why in thunder thieves war made would puzzle me to tell. Essep to make us cautious, an' to mind us all of—well, Thar's good an' wicked, anyhow; thar's ignorant an' wise; Thar's them at's true, thar's them at breathes the atmosphere of lies; Thar's them at you can read all through at sight, from A to Z; Thar's them you couldn't, ef you tried ontwell eternity.

"I'd ever tell you 'bout Joe Crab at lived at Popplville. Whar him an' Zadoc Goby, his old uncle, run a mill? Well, Joe Crab was, I tell you, Jawge, as curious a cuss as ever led in prayin', or kickin' up a fuss. An' his ways war jest unscrutable. To-day he'd come to town, Mayhap to swap a team of mules, or buy his wife a gown; Or sell a load o' shingles—anyhow, to make a trade—For tradin' he war sharpah'n any Yankee ever made. With a wallet fat with money he would go from bar to bar. An' with un-Yankeelike free-heartedness treat anybody thar; Then he'd wind up tight as blazes, then they'd cart him off to bed. An' put his waggin in the barn an' see his hosses fed. In the mawnin', long 'fo' sunup, Joe'd be down an' pay his bill. An', bright-eyed an' clear-headed, he'd drive back to Popplville. Next time—mought be a Sunday—he'd be back to town agin.

With a face 'at you would take your oath war a stranger unto sin. At church he'd sing like sixty, an' when it come to pra'r Thar warn't Joe Crab's equill in the congregation thar.

Long toads the middle of the week he'd be in town once mo'. But not so pious and devout, by long odds, as befo'. He would play ole sledge at Driscoll's, an' euchre—likewise draw. In which—the last named—sometimes he would meet with Judge McGraw. Once he an' Ed Hill had a fight to close an evenin's spot; Nex mawnin' they war summoned to appear befo' the cote. Judge McGraw war settin'. When the witnesses were heard. On both sides—likewise counsel—Judge McGraw remarked: "I'm feared 'At you, Joe Crab, in this affiah war somewhat moah to blame Than 'tother man." So he was fined ten dollars for the same. Joe Crab he up an' paid the fine with a sober sorter grin. But he wasn't long ten dollars short; it all come back agin. That very night, an' forty mo'; he won it playin' draw. An' he won it, Jawge—he won it, sho as sin, from Judge McGraw."

*This is Greene County for the superlative of ordinary. Sometimes the sound of the second letter is not heard; but when the Deacon was emphatic he rarely forgot his P's and Q's, and occasionally did full justice to the "dog's letter" that hath the burrish sound. Instead of overrid the reader may insert *ordinarist*, but he will hardly like it.

A RUSTIC COMEDY.

In the straggling, forlorn, unbeautiful Northumbrian village of Blackford, there was half a century ago, only one comfortable-looking building. It was none of the dwellings of the coal and lime-carriers, the hedgers and ditchers, or the drainers, who formed the bulk of the population, for their low drooping roofs, mended here and there with tarpaulin, spoke too eloquently of damp, draught, and overpressure; it was not the red-tiled croft-house inhabited by Willie Allan, the clever, lazy, kindly, cock-fighting, dog-fancying, boxing, wrestling, swimming, beekeeping tenant of the little farm, for bachelorhood and neglect had combined with Willie's devotion to hobbies of one kind and another to create of it and its surroundings an embodiment of picturesque disorder; it was not the great austere-looking, square-built Presbyterian meeting-house, with its prison-like walls and narrow windows; far less was it the shabby, genteel manse, for in cold weather the effect of the whitewash upon it was to threaten the spectator with a fit of the ague. No; on any gusty day in November, when the very trees on the hilltops seemed to have turned their shivering backs to the breeze that whistled through their branches and whirled away their red-tinted leaves in a madcap dance, and the diminutive cot-houses looked almost as though crouching to escape the blast, which the gaunt old manse faced in haggard despair, the "Red Lion" Inn alone, with its comfortable overcoat of impervious thatch, retained its aspect of quiet comfort, and toward evening the ruddy glare of its kitchen fire presagingly invited the toil-worn cotters to forsake their scolding wives and bawling children, their sooty fires and draughty houses, and enjoy its comfortable warmth.

And often at the same time there would be a light at one of the two attic windows that peered out from the roof like a pair of open gray eyes from under lids of thatch. For one of these attic rooms was the favorite resort of Adam Black, the thriving publisher of Blackford. Hither at night did he often resort, if business was dull down below, to smoke his pipe, and to think over his plans, and to calculate his goings and outgoings; for, as he would sometimes remark, "It took a deal of worry for a man as could neither read nor write to keep a true reckoning," and Adam's natural abilities had not been brightened up by education.

That did not hinder him from being greatly liked and respected in Blackford. The worst that could be said about him was that he was rather hard, and as a matter of fact there was little softness in his nature, though he never failed to greet his customers with a smile and jest; and if the smile was a little mechanical and the jest the worst for wear it mattered little to quiet country folk, who were not ashamed to laugh at the twentieth repetition of a witticism. And it was everywhere agreed that he kept a model public house—never, for instance, allowing any fighting to go on in a conspicuous place, but forcing the combatants to have it out, if they really meant business, in a secluded back-yard, where they could black each other's eyes with the most perfect safety and comfort. Any man might go to the "Red Lion" with the assurance that he would not be made a fool of. Adam knew the drinking capacity of every full-grown male in the neighborhood of Blackford, and would let none transgress his limit, or, if an accident did happen, generally managed to avoid anything in the nature of a public exhibition. And besides, the villagers all knew him to be, in their own language, as game as a bantam. At times Adam might in bargain-making show himself to his business-like neighbors as a hard bargainer, but generally speaking, what he could get he took, but nevertheless he steered notably clear of paltry meannesses, and he was known to be stubbornly faithful to all his friends—a man, on the whole, with a conscience not too troublesome, but far from dead.

In domestic life Adam was a martinet. He ruled his son Aleck, his red-haired servant But, and even his niece Kittle with a rod of iron. Prompt obedience was the unwritten law of the household. Only Kittle, besides being the smartest, prettiest, and cleverest girl in Blackford, was so wayward and spirited that not even her uncle, who liked her better than he liked anybody else in the world, was able to keep her entirely under control.

It was a great grief to Adam when he found out that Kittle was in a mood to throw herself away upon Willie Allan. Not that he disliked Willie—nobody could do that, but he thought him unlikely to be a good husband—that is, a thriving one, able to keep his family comfortable, for he never gave his mind to his business, and at waste of his time over what Adam deemed almost a Noah's ark in its way. The chance visitor was certain to find at every season of the year a litter of pups before the kitchen fire, and an old owl and still more ancient magpie carried on an unceasing struggle for the favorite perch above the kitchen clock. What had once been the best bedroom was converted into a flight for canaries, and there were always hanging about cages containing finches, linnets, thrushes, blackbirds, and even sparrows, for Willie was a noted experimentalist in the art of crossing, and could show an assortment of the most strangely-marked hybrids. The garden was stocked with bees and the barn with Russian rabbits. Twenty different kinds of fancy poultry were allowed to spoil the crops, and the dove-cote was inhabited by as many varieties of pigeons. In the pigsty he had a tame badger, and an otter in another. Whatever had life had a deep interest for Willie, as it had had a deep interest for his father before him, for, as well may be imagined, these tastes were inherited. But he gratified them at the expense of agriculture. Everybody said the croft would pay splendidly to a man who knew how to work it, but the Allans were not likely to make a fortune there or anywhere else.

It was, therefore, not without reason that Adam was set against his niece taking up with Willie; he considered it would be throwing herself away. And he believed that he possessed a powerful instrument for enforcing his own view, for he had full command of Kittle's little fortune—something like a hundred pounds—left her by her father, Adam's elder brother, who had preceded him in the occupation of the Red Lion. Whatever it amounted to, it was all in the big box that stood in Adam's favorite attic room, for he had a deep-rooted suspicion of banks, and, like many other coun-



WM. H. MCCLELLAN,
SECOND-BASE PLAYER OF THE BROOKLYN BASEBALL CLUB.

try folk of that time, held that his savings could not be safer than under his own lock and key.

"If you marry Allan," he said to Kittle, and she knew that no nice scruples about right and wrong would hinder him from keeping his word, "not a penny will you get from me."

The truth was that he had quite another scheme in his head. Why should Kittle look beyond his son Aleck? True, they were cousins, but the prejudice against cousins marrying was not strong in the neighborhood, and then what advantages were there? Kate was a splendid manager, and Aleck, though he had not his father's spirit and cleverness, was a hard worker and very careful—too careful, some people said, for whereas his father was only keen and saving, he was as mean and hard as a miser. But in matchmaking these are not defects to make a party ineligible, and best of all, thought Adam, "there'll be no need to divide the money." And, accordingly, he spared no effort to enforce his will, so that poor Kittle had a hard time of it, what with her uncle's threats and the no more agreeable persuasions of her money-grubbing suitor. Yet she was far too spirited to yield, and in her inmost mind was resolved to have both the sweetheart and the money, for who needed it if not careless, squandering Willie?

It was no fault in her eyes that her lover cared nothing whatever for her fortune, though she would scold and rate him well for his indifference. One Winter night, as she was returning from a neighboring village about three miles off, to which she had been sent by her uncle, Willie quite accidentally met her, and they had a happy talk homeward along the lane, on the snow-covering of which the moonlight fell fair and softly, making the hard wheel-tracks glitter and silvering the half-black, half-whitened hedgerows. Willie never before had seemed so true and earnest and loyal, as Kittle poured into his ear the story of her persecution.

"Never mind, lass," he said; "let him keep the money. I've little, but I'm not in debt, and if you'll promise to come to the croft, I'll—yes, Kittle—I'll sell every live thing I have, and work day and night for you."

"No, no, Willie, there's no use for that; but do you think I'll give up my rights to please that wretched Aleck? It's just what he wants, for me to marry you and leave everything to him. He would be pleased to see me quarrel with uncle, for it's not me, but the money he wants. But if he proposes again, do you know, I've a good mind to take him at his word, just out of spite. That's the worst I could do to him."

"Whist! whist!" Willie interrupted her with; "you're jokin', lass; but I dinna like it. Say anything but that. You would never leave me for a bit of dirty gold."

"Would I not?" queried Kittle, who was an incorrigible tease; "you'll maybe see me make a runaway match of it; aye, and glad you would be after a while to get quit of me. But here's the door. If I'm not away, I'll maybe be in the wood on Sunday night; and she was off, leaving Willie to go home so thoughtful that he quite forgot to feed his tame fox until awakened in the night by its yelping, a thing that had never happened in his life before.

Business was very dull in the "Red Lion" next afternoon, and Adam retired to his attic room, where Kittle had a cheerful fire, before which she sat knitting. Meg, the celebrated black-and-white greyhound, of which Adam was very proud, stretched its aristocratic body out on the rug, while beside it reclined a very different-looking dog. The rough, short, curly

hair of the latter was that of a terrier, but its long face and limbs and slender contour demonstrated its relation to the breed of which Meg was a pure and beautiful specimen. Jack, as he was called, was the very mongrel for a poacher.

Adam's conversation did not relate to his hounds, however, but to his son. He referred to Willie Allan with a moderation and impressiveness his niece had not expected to find.

"Barin," he said, "ye'll rue a lifetime if ye marry a man like that. It might be fine a twelvemonth, but after he'll get worse than ever, and the work and anxiety'll all fall on you. Better take a man like Aleck, that you can depend on to keep you comfortable, than one like Allan, that'll expect you to take care o' him."

"Ah!" replied Kittle, "had Aleck been the man his father is I would never have looked to another, but I cannot trust him."

"That's where you're wrong, lass. Sandy's a well-bred lad, both on the mother's side and the father's. There's not a better-bred lad in Blackford, and blood is sure to tell. He may be quiet, but he's game, I warrant you. I could trust him with all I have."

"You'd better not, uncle; and as to breeding, do you mind Meg's last pups that you expected to be so good, and still had to drown, for, says you, she's bred back? Well, I think Sandy's been bred back, an' that's why I want nothing to do with him."

"No, no, Kittle, if Aleck was what you say, I would have kicked him to the door sooner than let him marry you. But he's a true lad, for all his backwardness, and has a strong notion for you—a strong notion for him," Adam repeated.

"But if Aleck was a bad, treacherous man, and didn't care a bit for me, would you leave me free to take anybody I like?" queried Kittle.

"Sartainly, sartainly," answered her uncle. "Well, if I thought his blood as good as his breeding I would take him to-morrow," began Kittle, but she stopped, for Adam was not listening.

Something had caught his eye outside, and a stranger to his habits might have thought him wrapped in contemplation of the winter sunset's reddened clouds or the snowy landscape. The window commanded a view of a forty-acre field which stretched away from the village gardens to a great thick wood, from which it was separated by a brook. In the very middle of it stood a solitary tree, the boughs of which shone like dark tracery in the evening light.

"Look yonder," said Adam, pointing to the foot of this tree.

A limping, hungry hare, probably tempted by the remembrance of the vegetables it had sometimes on moonlight nights found in the gardens, was making toward them in little starts and runs, followed by stoppages, during which it would sit with its long ears pricked up to listen to or scent danger. Could any Blackford man look on that sight unmoved? It might have turned the old minister himself into a poacher, and the temptation was quite too strong for Adam. The very dogs, by the eager way in which they started up to follow him, seemed to see a chance of sport in his looks.

He was no sooner gone than Kittle did a very curious thing. Running to her own apartment, she hurriedly produced a bigish bunch of old keys, and began trying the lock of Adam's chest until she got one to fit. Then she opened it and looked in. But no pile of gold met her eye. Adam had a second box within the big one, and it, too, was locked. Kittle did not seem at all disappointed. Without touching anything in the box, she let the lid fall, carefully looked it, and put the keys back where she had found them.

Had Willie Allan been there to watch her next proceedings he would have been hurt and surprised, for the little flirt, after smartening herself up before the mirror, proceeded to the kitchen, where Aleck was busy polishing the harness of the doctor's horse, which happened to be kept at the Red Lion. Ensnoring herself snugly in the armchair in the corner, she plainly said, by look and movements, "Come, woo me." Though Aleck, her clumsy lover, did not lack the inclination to respond, he possessed none of that spirit of gallantry which ought to have made him quick to take the hint. Kittle's eyes were beginning to twinkle with amusement at her and his own embarrassment, when luckily Adam looked in with the hare, but he forgot all about Jack's performance in his pleasure at seeing the cousins so friendly.

"Ah!" he cried, "but you are two sly ones—courtin' like that whenever the old man's back's turned," and in great glee he went away and left them.

"What do you think of that now?" said Kittle laughing.

"I wish it was true," said Aleck.

"That is because you're a fool," said Kittle. "What on earth should we be sweetheartin' for? What kind o' life would you live here if you were married, Sandy? As long as Adam Black's here—and that may be twenty years yet—Adam Black will be master. And as for you, you'll toil and moil and mourn till the gray hairs come, and you'll get his money when you're past enjoying it. That's the lookout for a woman with a notion to you, my lad."

"I'll not deny you've hit it, Kittle. It's a poor spee at the best, keeping a country public; the hinds haven't the money to spend. If I had father's savings now, I wouldn't bide here past the term. I'd get a place nearer the pits—them's the lads to spend."

"If I were a man like you, Aleck, do you know what I'd do? I would make a big try to get these same savings and bolt. If you were quick and clever enough they'd never catch you, and you could change your name and get a new start."

"Ah! I've thought o' that, but the old one's over cunning. I believe he wears the key of the big chest always around his neck."

"If that's all your trouble, I know where to get a key. But would you not be frightened Aleck? Folk might call it robbery."

"That wouldn't be true. The money is mine as much as his, for I've worked hardest for it, and there's a lot of it yours, Kittle, and he wouldn't disgrace the name by making it a by-word, and he likes you so much that he wouldn't seek to get you into bad trouble. There would be murder, though, if he got hold of us himself."

That was the way in which the elopement was planned. During the next few days the cousins were in almost constant conversation, and even shrewd Adam was deceived, and thought, poor man, that his niece had forsaken Willie Allan, not from any mercenary motives, but because of the weighty advice he had given her. Never had he felt more serenely happy than on the next Sunday afternoon. The hare had been cooked exactly to his liking—the fore parts in soup, the hind parts in a pie; and after a dinner that might have pleased an Emperor, followed by a taste of fine old brandy—brandy kept for the exclusive use of the fox-hunting squires who would sometimes lunch at the Red Lion when the meet was in the neighborhood—he sallied forth for his usual Sunday afternoon walk, pipe in mouth and Jack and Meg at his heels.

"If you want a bit sport," said Kittle to him as he was going out, "take a turn in the forty-acre about dusk." He had no chance of asking her meaning, for there were others about, but he said to himself: "Ah! she's a sharp one, is Kite. That means another good dinner, or I'm cheated," and went his way.

No sooner was he gone than a tremendous bustle began in the public house, although it was shut on Sundays. Aleck did not know what to take and what to leave.

"It's four weary miles we have to walk into Scotland," said Kittle, "so the less we have to carry the better, Aleck. That box'll be a weight to take in itself, lad."

"We'll have plenty of time, though. Bet can say we've gone for a walk, and he'll be as pleased as Punch. Have you opened the chest?"

"Yes," said Kittle, "it's all right. The only pity is I could not open the little box, and you'll have to take it with us."

Darkness was just falling when the two fugitives emerged from the Red Lion. The peaceful villagers were all within doors, for it was bitterly cold, and the sharp north wind had begun to drive stray flakes of snow in front of it. Which way should they take? There could be no doubt of that; down the hill by the foot-road, across the brook by the single-plank bridge, through the wood until the highway was reached, and then a bold push to get across the Border. Many a Northumbrian lad and lass in the old time had trudged to the altar in that style, but few of the gallants carried a treasure with them such as was under Aleck's arm. Many a sharp look the runaways cast on every side, lest there should be any suspicious witness of their flight, but not a soul did they see, and the friendly snow dropped softly on their treacherous footprints. Neither said a word till they reached the old willow, near which the brook was crossed by a trembling plank. Then Kittle grew nervous.

"I'm frightened to cross the burn," she said; "go you first."

"Be quick, then," he answered. "I'll hold it," and getting swiftly to the other side, he seized the end of the unsteady bit of wood.

But, instead of following at once, Kittle screamed:

"There's Jack! your father must be chasing us."

Aleck stood undecided a moment, then dashed the frail bridge into the water.

"Hide where you can," he shouted; "he can't jump the burn, and I'll make off with the money."

"Oh! he'll kill me!" pleaded the girl. "Don't run away from me, Aleck."

"You shouldn't have been so slow," he retorted, with the box already under his arm.

"Stop, you blackguardly thief! Stop, I say!" hoarsely shouted his father, running up from where he had been looking after some rabbits. But the son turned in terror and fled—not far, however, for a newcomer appeared on the scene. Willie Allan, true to his appointment with Kittle, though he hardly expected to see her, emerged from the wood.

"Hulloa!" he said, placing himself in front of the runaway, "what's up?"

"Tell him dead!" yelled Adam.

"Let him go," said Kittle, but so softly that her lover could not make out what she said.

"You'd better turn back," he said to Aleck, but the fugitive, brought to bay, was desperate.

"Let me be," he said, "or by — I'll stab you," drawing a clasp-knife from his pocket.

"You scoundrel!" cried the other, in a white heat, "would you commit murder?"

Willie was credited with possessing more "science" than any other man in Blackford,

and where will you find good boxing if not in Northumberland? He had a faint, and the vengeful blade of his adversary glittered in a momentary streak of moonlight, but to no purpose, for the side-leader carried its object out of reach, and Willie landed a left-hander like a horse's kick just above the right eye of his opponent, who fell all his length on the snow, and in a trice was divested of his knife, which the conqueror threw contemptuously into the brook.

"Get up and fight like a man," he said, but Aleck was beaten.

Adam was in ecstasies.

"Bring the box round, lad; never mind that villain."

Willie lifted it, but on feeling the weight, "No, no," he replied, dropping it quickly, "he can take it back himself. Lift it up and wade," he said, "and if you drop it or try any tricks I'll pray your head into putty."

"Let me carry it round by the big bridge," besought the now thoroughly cowed Sandy.

"No, by heaven!" said the other, "through the burn you go; and, willing or not, he forced him to ford the current, which a moment after he himself cleared in a running leap.

"What is it all about?" he then found time to ask.

"You've stopped a bit of ugly work, I'm thinking," said Adam, upon whom the full extent of the crime began to dawn, as he dimly recognized the shape, size and weight of his money box in the clouded, uncertain light.

"These two have been trying to rob me."

"Never!" said Willie. "Kittie, you wouldn't do that?"

"Come up and make sure," said Adam.

With that they all began silently to retrace their steps, only Kittie slipped away in front as if to avoid embarrassing questions. Willie was very thoughtful. Just as they were coming to the door he tried to Adam in a low, troubled voice, which he tried hard to make indifferent:

"Look here, Adam; you haven't lost anything by this row, and there isn't much use in exposing her, is there?"

"No," was the reply; "but since they're so fond, I'll make them marry and set up house by themselves."

With that they entered the kitchen, where Aleck, all shivering with his bath, deposited the box on the floor. A cheerful firelight showed Kittie, not, as might have been expected, with abashed countenance and the demeanor of a culprit awaiting justice, but with heightened color and sparkling eyes far bolder than ever, as her old lover could not help thinking.

"There's your true blood," she said to Adam, but pointing to his son, "and this has been a fine night's work for him. It began with robbing you that's done so much for him; then the sweetheart that liked him so well as to run away with him left on the wrong side of the burn, and then to draw his knife on an honest man! You'll never seek to make me wed him now?"

"That you shall, you shameless hussy," barked out her uncle. "You're not fit for Allan, and I'm sure from what I've seen this night he wouldn't look at a thief."

"No, I couldn't do that," said Willie; "but here's no need for me here, and with a sad and regretful countenance he was about to leave, when he was stopped by a burst of mischievous laughter from the impatient but bewitching culprit.

"It's Bet's box," said Aleck.

"Bet's box?" said Kittie.

"Sure enough, it's not my box," said the uncle, dragging it into the light; "it's the same size, but not the color. But whatever is making it so heavy?"

That was soon discovered. The red-headed servant-girl came forward with a smile on her gaping mouth that suggested the part she had taken in the trick.

"There's a stone of shot," she said, "and there's the horsehooves from the back yard, and there's the rusty keys that used to lie in the stable, and here's my old petticoats stuffed in to keep them from jingling, and," she added, "the weights and the flatiron."

"By George!" said Willie, "he must have meant to start a pack. Would you have stabbed me to save that dirt?"

"He didn't know what it was," answered Kittie for him. "Just wanted to try his mettle, so I put this box in the room of the other one, and it's back in its place now, neither touched nor opened."

"I'm glad of that, lass," said the old publican, and, though there was not much in the words, there was a something in the voice that made them sink deep. "It would have been a bad day for me when I found you turning against me. But, Willie, lad, if you want to catch this skittish filly, you'd better be quick. Down to the minister's you go to-morrow and get your names asked; and as for you, you lubberly sump, after making a fool of yourself like that, what's to come of you?"

"Marry him to Bet," suggested Kittie.

"The very ticket!" returned her uncle. "Will you have him, Bet?"

"Aye, that will I," said the laconic maid.

"You'll go down to the minister's as well, then," said Adam to Aleck. "And now, lass, bring us a drop o' that brandy, and put the kettle on and bring the sugar, and we'll christen the bargain."

So a few weeks afterwards there were two weddings in Blackford, and when the lads of the village "roped" Willie Allan he gave them a whole half-sovereign to drink, and was therefore allowed to enter the croft house with a thunderstorm of cheers; but when they did the same thing to Aleck he morosely cut the rope with a knife, and that is why he has been so unlucky ever since; for if you go to Blackford now you will find the croft house to be the neatest, prettiest, nicest house there, while ever since old Adam's death, which happened many years ago, the Red Lion has been so squalid and dingy and disreputable that the Marquis has serious thoughts of taking away the license and of turning it into a butcher's shop.—*Longman's Magazine.*

GOOD WORDS FROM THE PRESS.

THE CLIPPER ANNUAL for 1886 is an elegantly printed pamphlet of 72 pages. The first ten contain a summary of all the first appearances of new actors, actresses and new plays for the past year, as well as all the births and marriages among the professional people. * * * THE ANNUAL is almost invaluable to every dramatic and sporting editor in the country, as well as to everyone interested in theatrical and sporting matters.—*Hotel Register*, St. Louis.

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THEATRICAL RECORD.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE BY TELEGRAPH AND MAIL.

Movements, Business, Incidents, and Biographies of the Theatrical, Musical, Minstrel, Variety and Circus Professions.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 2, 1886.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

Special Reports by The Clipper's Correspondents of the Opening Night of the Week in Various Parts of the Country.

Reports of performances on Monday nights in the following places reach us by mail: Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Baltimore, Albany, Troy, Providence and Newark.

Salvini Opens Well in 'Frisco'—After Twenty Years' and 'Sieba' the Novelties—General News.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 2.

BALDWIN THEATRE.—Salvini commenced his engagement of three weeks Monday evening, Feb. 1, in "Othello," to a large audience. "The Gladiator" and "The Outlaw" will be done during the week. Alexander Salvini will play Lagardere in "Duke's Motto" on the off-nights.

CALIFORNIA THEATRE.—"Black Crook" received its last representation Jan. 30. "Sieba" was put on 31, and was an utter failure.

BUSH STREET THEATRE.—"After Twenty Years," said to be new, in five acts, by George M. Ciprico, was produced Feb. 1, with Isabel Morris leading, supported by Fred De Belleville, George Wessels, Frank Wright, Logan Paul and an otherwise strong company, all of whom did well in their respective roles. Judging by the first performance, the play is not destined to become a great success.

STANDARD THEATRE.—Sparks and Hart made their first appearance with Charles Reed's Minstrels 1, with pleasing results.

TYOLI THEATRE.—"Widow O'Brien," better known as "Fun on the Bristol" was put on 1. It attracted a large audience, and is evidently on for a run. Helen Dingon, Billy Courtwright, Johnny Williams and Grace Young did good work, especially in the olio.

FOUNTAIN.—Mr. Beasley, formerly of the musical firm, and Floreska, a bird-charmer, made their first appearance 1. Mabel Davenport will shortly appear.

NOTES.—The Mexican Typical Orchestra has been received with much favor. The audiences have been delighted with their performances. M. B. Leavitt's illness was caused by overwork. He is at the Occidental Hotel, receiving all care and attention. Alice Harrison benefited Jan. 25. Miss Harrison has been suffering from a severe affection of the throat. The Grand Opera-house will remain closed until Feb. 15, when "Enchantment" will be done by the Kirafray. Murphy and Mack and Leopold and Wentworth made their appearance at the Wigwam 1. The young daughter of Imre Kirafray lost an eye in consequence of an accident with a pair of scissors, the point penetrating the pupil and destroying the sight. McKee Rankin and his company are absent on a tour in the interior.

Business Encouraging at the Lakeside.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 2.

The leading theatres offer but two changes of programme from those presented last week. These are the Hanlons' "Fantasma," which opened last night at Hooley's Theatre to big business, and McNish, Johnson & Slavin's Minstrels, which at the same time began a week's engagement at the Chicago Opera-house, to a fair attendance. Robson and Crane, whose success as the Promises in "The Comedy of Errors" here has been surprising, started their second week at McKiver's last night to a crowded house. At the Columbia, the Rosina Vokes Co., which both drew and delighted largely last week, entered upon a second week last night to an attendance noticeably less than any of its predecessors. The third hold-over is "A Tin Soldier" at the Grand Opera-house. Its attendance towards the close of last week had shown a tendency towards falling off, and this was noticeable, also, last night; but the drop is scarcely worth speaking about. Louise Sylvester in "A Hot Time" began the week quite auspiciously.

Arrests in Cincinnati for Violations of the Sunday Law.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 2.

Heuck's, the People's and the Vine-street were opened on Sunday at short notice, to fair business. There was no interference on the part of the authorities with the performances, but afterwards the "Alone in London" and "Montezuma" companies were all arrested on a magistrate's warrant, and yesterday they were fined one dollar apiece, with costs. Manager Heuck explained as to his action that he had agreed to close on Sunday, but the League insisted that he should be shut up by the League. Instead, they were open on Sunday. The League explain that they did not agree to close all the saloons in one week, and that they were exerting themselves towards the suppression of those places by making a certain number of arrests. Harry Anderson and "A Night Off" had good houses last night, while the other theatres had fair ones.

Carleton's Opera Company Scores Success in the Mount City.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 2.

Carleton's Opera Company was greeted with a full house at Pope's, and "Nanon" was given in grand style. Carleton's second appearance in his first solo, but the audience did not warm towards Louise Paulin till the close of the first act. In the second, Alice Vincent, Chas. H. Drew and C. M. Leumane received encores. A big week is assured, even at the advance in prices. "Stormbeaten" drew a six-hundred-dollar house, and Edmund Colter was generously applauded. "Romany Rye" had a full house at the People's. The Standard was packed to see Davee's Combination. "We, Us & Co." had a good attendance at the Olympic. The Casino and the Palace had big matinees Sunday. The statutory at the Casino is regarded as exceptionally good.

The Rents-Santley Company and the Museums Doing Well in Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 2.

Janaushek opened at the Opera-house last night in "Zillah" to a rather light attendance; but, as the sale for the remainder of the week is quite good, indications are that the engagement will be profitable. "Zillah" is not a favorite here, notwithstanding Janaushek's superb acting of the title-role. "Dad's Girl," in the person of Lizzie May Ulmer, was not complimented with a large audience at Library Hall. "After Dark" packed Harris' Museum, and pleased the audience. The Rents-Santley Company played to a large attendance at the Academy, seeming to suit the audience completely. The Chalet Museum drew the usual large number to see Belle Boyd and the remainder of the excellent programme provided.

"The Mikado" Fighting Nevada.

TORONTO, Ont., Feb. 2.

At the Grand "Mikado," Harry Carter's Co. opened to a packed house. Nevada drew a large and enthusiastic audience at the Horticultural Garden. The People's also was well patronized.

"The Jilt" for the First Time in the East—Myra Goodwin Catches On in the Hub—"Called Back" Called Bad—Other Openings.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 2.

The Museum was largely attended. "The Jilt" given evidence of becoming a go. The action of the piece is not particularly enjoyable or interesting, but the dialogue teems with some of the best things Mr. Boucicault has given us. Maudie Craig, a debutante, was successful as Phyllis. The star was called several times, receiving lavish applause at the end of his usual speech. The Globe held a fine audience, and Clara Morris renewed her old success as Miss Multon. The Park was fairly attended, but the Claxton Co. gave an awfully poor presentation of "Called Back." Harry Lee's Macari was the sole redeeming feature. The Bijou was packed, with the usual success of the star. The star Myra Goodwin, put the audience in excellent humor with her songs, dances, etc., and George Richards was very quaint as Hickory. The Howard was crowded, and variety's return was hailed with unbounded delight. The Boston, Hollis and Windsor all opened up splendidly.

The Crescent City's Current Attractions.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Feb. 2.

Manager Durien does not state the amount of subscription needed, and my figures, telegraphed you last week were erroneous. "May Blossom" opened at the Academy Sunday night to a fine house, and had a fair one last night. "The Jewels" opened at the Grand. "Pixley" opened at the St. Charles on Sunday night to a large audience, and had a good one last night. Jennie Calfe opened at Farant's last night to very good attendance. Baird's Minstrels made big money on their week. "The Widder" opened at the Avenue last night to a good attendance.

Notes from the Falls City.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 2.

"The Shadows of a Great City" opened at Macaulay's to a fair-sized audience. The Pavement of Paris at Harris' Museum had a poor attendance. The New Grand had a good audience to greet May Fisk's Blondes. "The Silver Spur" at the Masonic Temple drew a very fair audience. The Grand Central and Highland Palace both had good houses.

Macon's Report.

MACON, Ga., Feb. 2.

Annie Pixley had a fine house at the Academy Jan. 25. O'Neill's "Monte Cristo" was the success of the season. The twelve hundred seats were filled and the aisles crowded—largest audience ever in the building except on one occasion, when seats were free. Jan. 28, 1. Davenport 3, Strakosch Opera Co. 5 and 6, Kellogg 9.

In the Forest City.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 2.

Campbell's "Clilo" opened at the Euclid to a good audience. The Wellesly & Sterling Co. presented "The Danites" at the Cleveland to a good attendance. Frank I. Frayne opened at the People's to the largest audience of the season. The Academy is closed. The Museum was well attended at all performances.

Indianapolis Jottings.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 2.

At the Grand, Minnie Madden played in "Spite of All" to a very good house. J. W. Ramsey, in "Across the Atlantic" had a fair house at English's. At the Zoo, the Austin Novelty Company did an excellent business and made a big hit. The Leonos fared well at the Museum.

Couldock in Reading.

READING, Pa., Feb. 2.

At the Academy Couldock, in "Willow Weep," appeared last night to a remunerative business. The play was elegantly mounted and well received. Rose Easton opened at the Grand in "The Breadwinner" to a packed house, and made a favorable impression.

Manager Chas. O. White's Benefit.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 2.

"Jack o' Diamonds" opened at the Detroit last night. The benefit tendered to Manager Chas. O. White packed the house. It was simply an ovation. The beneficiary acted as interlocutor, and presided with old-time grace.

Opening of the Carnival in St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 2.

The carnival parade last night was immense, five to six thousand persons being in line. The city is wild, and success is assured. The night was cold. Alice Oates' Co. had a big audience at the Olympic, notwithstanding the parade.

News from the Flour City.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 2.

At the Grand Opera-house, a moderate-sized audience. "Nobility's Claim," which opened at the Academy, turned people off. "Colars and Curfs" did well at the Casino.

Philadelphia Openings.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 2.

Modjeska opened to a large but rather cold audience. The Walnut, with Kate Castleton, and the Arch, with Sol Smith Russell, were full. "Princess Toto" was excellently done at the Arch-street Opera-house.

Lotta's Large and Buffalo Bill's Bad Business.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 2.

At the Coates, Lotta in "Mile Nitouche" opened a week's engagement to a packed house. The Buffalo Bill Co., at the Gillis, had a light business.

Reopening of Gray's Opera-house.

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 2.

The "Boston Museum" Co. reopened Gray's Opera-house in "Divorced" to a packed house, the date of opening having been changed from 7 back to 1.

Haverly's Home Minstrels on a Tour.

ELGIN, Ill., Feb. 2.

Haverly's Home Minstrels opened their two weeks' tour last night to a packed house.

Wheeling's Welcome to "The Strangers of Paris."

WHEELING, W. Va., Feb. 2.

"The Strangers of Paris" opened last night to big business at Shay's Academy of Music.

Popular Prices Prevailing in Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Feb. 2.

At Black's, Bennett & Moulton's Opera Co. inaugurated a week's opera at popular prices to "Standing-room only." Frank Daniels' "Rag Baby" fared equally as well at the Grand.

ODD TRICKS.

CLYDE, N. Y., Feb. 2.—James Owen O'Connor, in "Hamlet," opened here last night to a crowded house, and was given a fine reception, being greatly applauded scene by scene. He was called before the curtain at the end of each act.—W. C. NICHOLS, Manager Opera-house.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 2.—Deny the report that I played in Cleveland at Drew's Museum.—MAGGIE CLINE.

MILLERSTOWN, Pa., Feb. 2.—Carrie Stanley has struck out here with "Collier's Daughter."—C. B. BURNS, Manager.

OTTUMWA, Ia., Feb. 2.—Edwin Stuart's Theatre Co. opened at my Opera-house in "Lady of Lyons" to an immense audience.—HUGH LANNING.

IRWIN, Pa., Feb. 2.—The Clarke-Artzberger Co. played here three nights last week, with increased business every night.—MANAGER OF OPERA-HOUSE.

BROOKTON, Mass., Feb. 2.—Lester & Allen's Minstrels, with John Sullivan, played here last night to a large house.—HARRY C. EGERTON.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 2.—Wellesly and Sterling opened at the Cleveland Theatre in "Dogs of the Forest" to a packed house.—GEORGE ALLEN.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 2.—"The Streets of New York" opened at the National Theatre to the largest Monday-night house of the season.—T. F. KELLEY, Manager.

MT. PLEASANT, Ia., Feb. 2.—The Juvenile "Mikado" Co. played at Mass Opera-house last night, and pleased all.—P. A. LEBERMAN.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 2.—Louise Sylvester's Co. made a hit at Criterion Theatre last night in her musical comedy "A Hot Time."—W. R. BREMOND, Manager.

DUNBAR, Pa., Feb. 2.—Artzberger & Clarke's Dramatic Co. played to a packed house.—W. W. HERRINGTON, Manager Opera-house.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL NOTES.

Fanny Monticaster's manager denies the report of the disbandment of her company. They simply consolidated with the Lyons Comedy Co., and did not lose one night or any salaries.

Dora Ross and W. G. Croix leave the Cora Van Tassel Co. Jan. 31. They are organizing their own company to open in Vevay, Ind. Feb. 16.

Skiff's Sans Souci Opera Co. will lay off in Chicago this week, to give their advance-agent time to get dates. The heavy snows have caused them much delay.

W. J. Fleming was in town Feb. 1, having resigned as leading-man with Fanny Louise Buckingham. J. B. Mackie has also left that company to join the new "Aphrodite" Co.

John E. Lewis has returned to his first love, having joined C. L. Davis' "Alvin Joslyn" Co. at Austin, Tex. Jan. 28, as lithographer.

William Davidge Jr. has joined the Kirafray Bros' "Rat-catcher" Co. to play the Tailor, lately filled by A. W. Tams.

Simmonds & Brown are engaging the company to support Lydia Thompson in burlesque. Daisy Ramsden, Wm. Conway, Fred Darrell and others are already engaged. The death of Miss Timpon's husband (Alex. Henderson) may postpone the opening of the tour.

H. E. Forrest, who went to the Canadas with a combination under the management of Mr. Sheppard of Toronto, and played "Louis Riel" returned to this city Jan. 27. Alf Greene, the author, and the company are all home.

Robert H. Terrell Jr. denies having married Lillian Wallack.

Fanny Davenport will shortly retire from her traveling combination, and her place will be filled by Sara Jewett, who is to play Fedora.

W. A. Lavelle, Maude White and Lena Fontaine returned last week from Winnipeg. Man. Joe Stauffer, late with "Favette," has gone to Winnipeg as subreiter.

Annie Wood joins Harrison & Gourlay's Co. next week in Cincinnati; so does Flora May Henry. Dora Stuart retires and Lizzie Jeremy continues too ill to resume her place.

H. E. Dixey was assaulted in the cafe of the St. James Hotel, this city, Sunday night, Jan. 30. His injuries were very slight, and his assailant was promptly ejected.

The German-opera Co. now in this city tour under Maurice Grau's management, may go to "Frisco" next week.

Walter Dennis has returned to Minneapolis, Minn., from Washington, where he was very ill for some time.

Courtenay Thorpe of the Vokes Co. has been dangerously ill in Chicago.

James O'Neill talks of playing Hamlet on his next southern tour.

Gustavus Levick is threatened with blindness. A cataract is growing over each eye.

Bertie Damon recently joined Fred Bryton's "Forgiven" Co.

Norman Leslie Baker, known in baseball circles, has joined Ford's Opera Co. W. L. Voss of this company recently played Kati-ba in "The Mikado," substituting for Miss May, who was ill.

O. W. Kyle and twelve other members of the late Hamersley Opera Co. write us in denial of Mr. Hamersley's statement that he paid all salaries. They claim he owes them various amounts.

Kate Davis left the "Fantasma" Co. Jan. 30.

C. W. Roberts secured a writ of attachment Jan. 28 at St. Louis, Mo., against John J. Collins and F. B. Ward on a due bill, signed by Mr. Collins, for \$50. The box office receipts of Po-e's Theatre, where Mr. Ward was playing, were garnished.

It is said of "Blackmail," to which we refer in another column, that it is another version of "The Felon's Bond," by W. E. Suter, first played in 1859. But Suter was in his day as much of an adapter as are some of our later-day playwrights. We still hold to the opinion that the piece is originally from the French of Maurice Sarrin.

W. S. Gilbert, indignant at the action of the Harpers, the publishers, has turned over to a London charity a £10 check said to have been sent him by them for printing his librettos in one of their publications. He says he has been "pigeon-holed" and left by American publishers and managers.

MAINE.

AUGUSTA.—At Granite Hall, Gilmore's "Devil's Auction" under the management of Charles H. Yale, was presented Jan. 28, and notwithstanding a heavy storm of sleet and rain, the large hall was filled to overflowing. The entertainment was excellent. Coming: Dickens's Cosmorama and Art Studies, Feb. 3; concert, 12, under the management of Carrie Hovey, when will appear Louise Baldwin, soprano; Master Claude Fisher, violin; Leland T. Powers in impersonations, and other talent. At Henry's Minstrels 22, George C. Minn, March 4, and Alkinson's "Aphrodite" 22. At Moonlight Hall, an entertainment by the Ladies' Relief Corps Feb. 1 and 2, when will appear Louise Baldwin, soprano; Master Claude Fisher, violin; Leland T. Powers in impersonations, and other talent. At Henry's Minstrels 22, George C. Minn, March 4, and Alkinson's "Aphrodite" 22. At Moonlight Hall, an entertainment by the Ladies' Relief Corps Feb. 1 and 2, when will appear Louise Baldwin, soprano; Master Claude Fisher, violin; Leland T. Powers in impersonations, and other talent.

Portland.—At the Portland Theatre, Gilmore's "Devil's Auction" Co. drew very large audiences Jan. 29 and 30. The Gannella Bros. fairly brought down the house by their tumbling. At City Hall, the "Marianne" English opera will sing "The Rose of Castile" in the Stockbridge Course 3. The cast includes J. C. Bartlett, H. L. Cornell, Lon. F. Brine, Myron Clark, C. M. Carlos, Walter Robbins, Elta Killek, Gertrude Edmonds and Harriette Ernst. On 5 the same company will sing "Martha."

1

salisbury with "Woman Against Woman" Jan. 2. Salisbury's Troubadours in "Three-of-a-kind" next week. Will C. Cooper's "Blackmail" is billed for a week of 8, after which Sangers' "Bunch of Keys" and Gillette's "Private Secretary" Co., the latter for two weeks.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Clara Morris is here this week. He opened in "Miss Mollie," and for the five nights and matinee will play "Artie Lee." "New Magdalen" and "Amillee." Jas. O'Neill opens Saturday, 4, in "Monte Cristo," and plays through the succeeding week, after which Thatcher, Primrose & West's Minstrels come for a week.

BOSTON THEATRE.—The Rat-catcher has made success. Willie La Bruyere's "Camie," the novel tragedy, and the elegant scenery are accountable for this, together with the very pretty German story. The business has been very good. This is the second and final week. Next week the Ideal Opera Co. open and sing for two weeks, after which Benjamin Thompson and Margaret Mather follow in succession.

HOLLIS-STREET THEATRE.—Tasty, daintily performed white-satin sash bags, with the pictures of the Three Little Maids hand-painted on one side, will be given to the lady auditors in attendance upon the performance of "The Three Little Maids." The opera is now sung to even more crowded houses than ever. The performances are smoother and more pleasurable, too. Ida Mullie makes the sweetest of Yum-Yums.

RIDGE THEATRE.—Myra Goodwin opened a week in the new Alfa Theatre Co. closed at "East Lynne" every way Jan. 30. Alva Gray, "East Lynne," next week.

HOWARD ATHENAEUM.—The specialty company which takes its name from this theatre opened a week. 1. The company includes Hilda Thomas, Cora and Mackay, Sweetser and Ryland, Jan. 2. "The Three Devils," Jan. 3. Alva Vanti, Sharpley and West, Pavilio and Rousillon, A. O. Duncan, and Wm. Sheehan and Alva Hulmes. Campbell's "Siberia" played to the fullest capacity of the house last week. The Siltons' Co. do "The Yellow Dwarf" Jan. 3. and John A. Stevens comes in "A Street With a Right Turn" Jan. 3.

WINDSOR THEATRE.—Sid C. France opened Jan. 2 in "The James Boys." Mattie Vickers closed an excellent week Jan. 30 with "Jacqueline." Milano's Humpty Dumpty Co. next week.

WINDSOR'S MISERABLE.—The play of giants—(the "Pierrots") is the new "big" features of this week. They opened Feb. 1. Fat boys, dancing skeletons, glassblowers and a multiplicity of things curious and interesting furnish amusement to throngs of patrons daily. Chas. Diamond, the Milanese juggler, and his company are doing the stage show. The management has offered substantial cash prizes for the best compositions on "The World's Museum." The contestants are confined to the public-school pupils.

AUSTIN & STONE'S MUSKIE.—Ever energetic in presenting novelties, the company of Austin & Stone, opened an exceptional array of curiosities this week. A company of Guatemala Indians, with their mirambas, concertize daily. These instruments are very pleasing in tone. Arline Verona, the human-mach who lights gasjets, etc., with her finger tips, delights the audience. Humpty Dumpty Co. furnish the stage performances.

KEITH & BATCHELOR'S GAYETY MUSKIE.—Variety holds sway still at this place, and it must be most profitable. The talent includes the Maxwell, McThompson, Frank and Edlie, the "Red and Green" Trio, the "Three Devils," the "Three Devils," the "Three Devils," and the "Three Devils." The company is very popular, and the management has offered substantial cash prizes for the best compositions on "The World's Museum." The contestants are confined to the public-school pupils.

RESIDENCE.—Harry Lewis, Miles & Barton's clever young representative at the Bijou, is a determined practical joker. The door-knob is the latest medium through which he plays it on the boys. It is connected with an electric battery, and by pressing a button near at hand Harry can charge the knob very heavily with electricity. Invitations to step within the office have been sprung on the boys, and the boys have been very anxious to open the door when they clutch the knob. "Willie" Gill is in town rehearsing "Oxygen." Chas. Tower of the *New York Times* was in town lately, as also was R. E. J. Miles. Manager Austin gave his eleventh popular sacred concert at the "Grand Flat" on Wednesday, Jan. 31. The sixteenth Symphony concert was given at Music Hall Jan. 30. D'Oyly Carte was a complainant in the United States District Court before Judge Nelson Jan. 30. In the matter of the bill brought by the "Vocal Gems" from the Mikado, Bro. publishing "Vocal Gems" from the Mikado, arranged by George K. Jackson, on the ground that the accompaniment is an infringement upon the one prepared by George L. Tracy and the copyright of which is owned by Mr. Carter, the defendant has asked that the judgment be an infringement. Mr. Tracy was on the witness stand all the morning. Decision was reserved.

LAWRENCE.—The Opera-house was well filled Jan. 29, when John S. Burpee presented "Kerry Gow." Mr. Bolton lectured to a large audience 27 on "From Venice to Rome." J. K. Applebee gave his second lecture 29 to a select audience. The vivacious and piquant Myra Goodwin appeared to a fair-sized audience 29 in "Sia." The Leonard Grover Co. opened at the "Grand Flat" Jan. 29. The "Hurt Oaks" Co. and Abercrombie's Co. also canceled. It is unpleasant for Manager Merrill, and it is hoped no trouble may arise in the future. The following bookings are made: Feb. 3, Neil Burgess; 4, the Carrolls; 8 to 13, Bennett Matlack's Co.; 15, Boston Lyceum; 16, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 17, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 18, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 19, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 20, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 21, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 22, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 23, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 24, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 25, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 26, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 27, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 28, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 29, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 30, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 31, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.

LYNN.—J. E. Green is manager of the Tremont Theatre. Last week's people were Harry West, Emma Delano, Jero F. Driscoll, Weston Sisters, Minnie Lewis, Billy Pierce, Joe Leslie, Emma Hunt, Lottie Morton, Stella Hatch, Ben Downie, Ella Reeves and the "Hurt Oaks" Co.

LOWELL.—Music Hall Myra Goodwin drew well Jan. 25, 26, in "Sia." On 27 the local club, assisted by Miss Torrey of Boston, presented the last act of "Martha" and a travesty on "Il Trovatore" by Dr. Rix to a good house. "Burr Oaks" gave informal performances to a good audience 29. Concluding Neil Burgess Feb. 4.

LYNN.—(Late letter.)—"Burr Oaks," Jan. 25 and 26, had poor business. Lester & Allen's Minstrels, with John L. Sullivan, had a very fine house 30. J. E. Green, the veteran minstrel manager, is running a good business at the "Grand Flat" Jan. 29. Coming: Harlow, Wilson & Rankin's Minstrel Feb. 4; "The Mountebank," with Eben Plympton and Elton Heron 6.

TAUNTON.—The Taunton Glee Club gave a concert at Music Hall Jan. 27. The "Siberia" Co. gave a performance at the "Grand Flat" Jan. 27. Too small to permit the use of much of their scenery.

PITTSFIELD.—During an amateur theatrical performance here Jan. 29, Miss Marion Fulton, aged 17 years, was accidentally shot by a young man, who supposed the girl was a dummy. The bullet struck her in the left eye and seriously injured the other. Next day the girl was the only survivor of her widowed mother, was taken to the hospital and died.

NEW BEDFORD.—Heleene Adell and her company were here for a week, and played to large houses at low prices—30, 25 and 30 cents. The best people attended the performance of "The Three Little Maids" Jan. 29. "The Colleen Bawn," "Our Boys" and "Two Orphans" "Moths" 28, "Camille" 29, and "The Two Brothers" 30. The "Hurt Oaks" Co. and Abercrombie's Co. also canceled. It is unpleasant for Manager Merrill, and it is hoped no trouble may arise in the future. The following bookings are made: Feb. 3, Neil Burgess; 4, the Carrolls; 8 to 13, Bennett Matlack's Co.; 15, Boston Lyceum; 16, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 17, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 18, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 19, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 20, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 21, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 22, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 23, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 24, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 25, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 26, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 27, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 28, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 29, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 30, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 31, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.

GEORGIA.—(See Page 740.)

ATLANTA.—This week will be a memorable one for our Georgia-Jani. The "Hurt Oaks" Co. gave a performance at the "Grand Flat" Jan. 27. Too small to permit the use of much of their scenery.

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MISSISSIPPI.

Vicksburg.—Huntley & Gilbert's Co. are billed at the Opera-house for Feb. 1, in "Rosedale." Nellie Boyd's "Unknown" Co. had big business last week. The "Hurt Oaks" Co. gave a performance at the "Grand Flat" Jan. 27. Too small to permit the use of much of their scenery.

PITTSFIELD.—During an amateur theatrical performance here Jan. 29, Miss Marion Fulton, aged 17 years, was accidentally shot by a young man, who supposed the girl was a dummy. The bullet struck her in the left eye and seriously injured the other. Next day the girl was the only survivor of her widowed mother, was taken to the hospital and died.

NEW BEDFORD.—Heleene Adell and her company were here for a week, and played to large houses at low prices—30, 25 and 30 cents. The best people attended the performance of "The Three Little Maids" Jan. 29. "The Colleen Bawn," "Our Boys" and "Two Orphans" "Moths" 28, "Camille" 29, and "The Two Brothers" 30. The "Hurt Oaks" Co. and Abercrombie's Co. also canceled. It is unpleasant for Manager Merrill, and it is hoped no trouble may arise in the future. The following bookings are made: Feb. 3, Neil Burgess; 4, the Carrolls; 8 to 13, Bennett Matlack's Co.; 15, Boston Lyceum; 16, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 17, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 18, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 19, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 20, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 21, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 22, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 23, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 24, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 25, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 26, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 27, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 28, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 29, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 30, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.; 31, the "Hurt Oaks" Co.

NEBRASKA

Castleton's "Crazy Patch" Co. closed a two weeks' stay 30, without having made much money here. Margaret Mather played "Lush" for the last time at Madison-square 30. Manager J. M. having finally decided to present her in another role for her last and current week. "The Mikado," compelled to abdicate by Edwin Booth's date at the Fifth-avenue, was sung at that house for the last time 30. It had been on there since Aug. 19 last, to the best business the house has ever known. Its transfer to the Standard, to which we refer elsewhere, is regarded with misgivings by those who like to speculate on theatrical affairs; yet it may do well enough at its new home. "The Hoop of Gold," Co. at the THIRD- AVENUE, Gilday's "Collars and Cuffs" at the Mt. MORRIS, Sanger's "Bunch of Keys" at the HARLEM COMIQUE, and the Gillette "Private Secretary" Co. at the GRAND OPERA-HOUSE were the week stands closed 30. Thatcher, Prime & West led an splendid satiric forage for their first week at NIBEL. On the one pleasant evening of the past six days the house was packed, and there was little room even when the weather was at its worst. The German-opera company at the METROPOLITAN presented no novelties at all, and the American Opera Co. at the ACADEMY, but one—"The Magic Flute," which was sung 27 to a large audience, without creating special enthusiasm. Something new at the THALIA was "Die Lustige Weib von Windsor," Otto Nicolai's operatic setting of "The Merry Wives of Windsor." It is quite familiar in Germany, and has been sung in this city more than once before. At the Thalia it was done 28 to a good house.

CAPT. JAC. CRAWFORD made his debut as a lecturer Jan. 29 at the Sixth-avenue Methodist Episcopal Church, Brooklyn. The proceeds benefited the church. He will continue on the platform.

MRS. ELKANOR FLETCHER BISHOP, eleconiat, lecturer and musician, was arrested Jan. 28 on a charge of larceny, in mortgaging \$350 worth of furniture to a pawnshop for her property. Mrs. Bishop was held in default of \$2,500 bail.

WALTER A. LIVERMORE of the Livermore Stylographic Pen Co., and Providence, R. I., correspondent of THE CLIPPER, has been in town, en route West.

COMBY THEATRE.—Kellar will continue until Feb. 10, 22 the lease of the Comedy press to Charles Frohman, who will put in Tony Hart for an indefinite season in William Gill's musical farce-comedy, "A Toy Pistol." A large company is promised, and it will be sought to push Mr. Hart to a long run here. The arrangement between Mr. Hart and Mr. Frohman provides that the former, as in the case of "The Grip" and Adonis, shall receive a percentage of the gross receipts. The transfer of the lease by Mr. Brotherton to Mr. Frohman was completed Jan. 29. The contemplated production of "The Little Tycoon" is of, therefore, so far as the Comedy is concerned. There is yet talk of its presentation.

"THE GRIP" is manifestly prosperous at Harrigan's Park Theatre, and there is no announcement of a novelty.

THE GRAND OPERA-HOUSE attraction this week is the "Wagon of Sin" Co.

The Grand Opera House benefit at Daly's, Wallack's and the Madison-square afternoon of Feb. 4 ought to be largely patronized. The object is worthy, and the bills are strong.

"THE MIKADO'S" transfer to the Standard Theatre occurred Feb. 1. The Fifth-avenue scenery, orchestra, and cast, all came over to the Standard, but the opera went merrily on its way. It will remain there until Mr. Booth leaves the Fifth-avenue, when it will return to its original home. The T. F. & W. Minstrels go to the Standard next month for two weeks.

HARRY S. SAMPSON's annual benefit occurs at the Grand Opera House April 8. It will be the eighth anniversary of his service as Tony Pastor's manager.

JOHN H. HUNTER, at one time assistant-treasurer of the old Windsor Theatre, died in this city Jan. 26, aged twenty-five. He was buried 28 at Cypress Hill Cemetery.

ROSE SPERO, who says she has been on the stage as a stage singer, caused the arrest of Adonis Mainwaring on a charge of betraying her by means of a mock-marriage. The accused was paroled for examination.

HELEN DAUWAY is yet at the Lyceum, where "One of Our Girls" is in its fourth month, and is still profitable.

The Gillette "Private Secretary" Co. are at the Harlem Comique. Louis Aldrich's "My Partner" Co. are to be there next week.

AT DALY'S the "Merry Wives" revival flourishes. "She Would and She Would Not" is in preparation.

HUBER'S PROPERT.—The following are the people for the week ending Feb. 1, 1902, at Huber's Grand Champ: De Bar Bros., Miamie Schult, Battie Howard, Louise Lamont, My Diamond, Libbie Kirk and A. L. Gleason. The business at this popular resort is reported good. Manager Huber will give a supper Saturday 6, complimentary to George Beauchamp, who sails for England that night. George Beauchamp, Kismet & H. This is the last week but one of the burlesque "Mikado." It will be replaced 15 by "Princess of Trebizonde," for which special engagements have been made, among them Jessie Warner and Harry Morris and others. This is the final call of Ella Kismet, who is leaving the city for a tour in the Imperial City. Harry Morris opened this week. Alice Greavin, Laura Burt and Louise Lester will reign as favorites.

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CIRCUS, VARIETY AND MINSTREL.

MERT CLARK is in Rochester, N. Y., visiting friends after a three years' absence in South America and England.

BOKN.—To Lottie Sinclair, wife of Frank Kennedy (of Kennedy and Milton), a girl, 10 pounds, at Covington, Ky.

ARTHUR HARRIS of the Muldoon Quartet is at St. Michael's Hospital, Newark, N. J., ill with erysipelas of the face. He is being comfortably cared for.

MRS. PAT O'BRIEN, the German giantess, was presented with a gold medal for being the tallest lady in the world's convention at Bradenburgh & Co.'s Museum, Philadelphia.

HUNTER'S RAILROAD CIRCUS lay up in Argentina, Ark., this and next weeks. Then they take the road again for 1886, as Proprietor Chas. Hunter informs us.

The following have already signed with the Wallace & Co. Circus and Menagerie for the coming season: Matt Leland, general agent; the Furr Waller Bros., Sig. Dason, Daniel Lane, Whitney Bros., Sweeney and McLane, Prof. Wm. Galtze's band, and Al. G. Field. The sister of Manager Wallace was hurried across the Atlantic by Harry Maganigan. Jas. Anderson has returned from a Western trip.

"BILLY" BANKS, a colored comedian, died in London, Eng., about Jan. 20. He had been playing Friday in "Robinson Crusoe" at the Surrey. Formerly he was a minstrel and was with the Callender party when it first went to England from this country.

LINDA KALF's domestic trouble has been smoothed over, we hear.

P. F. FLYNN (of Flynn and O'Brien) is still under the doctor's care at his home in Elmira, N. Y. The team have canceled a number of dates, but expect to return very soon.

HARRY ARMSTRONG left the McIntyre & Heath Minstrels Jan. 29, and returned to his home at Wilmington, Del., to bury his mother.

CHARLES A. LODGE may again be seen next season in his comedy "Hilarity."

LESTER & ALLEN'S MINSTRELS, now in New England, have secured the following organizations: General Manager, Harry C. Egerton; general agent, Abr. Splitz; properties, Chas. Miller; leader, Phil Lewis Interlocutor, Albert Hart (stage manager); bones—Billy Lester, Frank Bell, Harry La Rose and Wm. Ford; tambos—Paul Allen, Joseph La Rose and Joseph Ford; banjos—Harry La Rose and Joseph Ford; Master Natua, Robert McIntyre and Charles Fox; Master Hiram, the La Roses, Fox and Ward, Lester and Allen, Frank Bell, Frank Shepard and John L. Sullivan appear in the olio.

WOOD and West sail on the Egypt Feb. 4, to join William Wood's "The Lion's Picnic" Co., opening in Dublin, Ire., March 1.

THE KENNEL SHOW was to have sailed for Costa Rica, S. A., on Panama Jan. 21. They will stay there a month and then return to the States. Robert Whitaker, the hurdle rider, informs us that business has been good with them. He will be back March 1.

KORRESPONDENCE from Monmouth, Ill., on another page, tells how Julie Keen broke his arm.

PROF. BRISTOL'S EQUINE SKILL is taking a good hold in Canada. At Hamilton, on the closing night, a delegation waited on the Professor at his hotel, and made him promise a return date. He has two more nights in W. Johnson and A. D. Cameron's understanding how to work the show before he reaches its dates.

THOMAS H. WARD emphatically denies that he is or ever has been married.

MES FIGUEROA, an English artist of high reputation, will shortly appear here with an avary of twenty elephants, tigers, lions, etc.

GEORGIE PARKER has been absent from Koster & Bial's, but will return shortly and appear as the Gipsy in "The Princess of Trebizond."

MAY TEN BROECK was unable to appear at the London Theatre, Monday, Feb. 1. She has a troupe bound for Australia.

TWELVE members of the late Woodson & Dumont Minstrels write us complaining of unpaid salaries and generally unprofessional conduct on the part of their managers, Harry Dumont and J. J. Campbell. They propose to reorganize and continue on tour.

DICK HEYWOOD says his Female Mastodon "O" went to pieces at Cherry Valley recently. They came to New York to reorganize. An unreliable advance agent caused the collapse.

ALICE GLEASON bicycled in Boston, Mass.

HARRY S. EATON is working an Alabama Minstrel Co. through Kansas this week. Sam Jones is his assistant.

WALTER WENTWORTH writes us from Cuba, where he is playing with "Pabillon's" Circus, that he is doing well, but eating under protest, the cooking so bad. He shuts his eyes, opens his mouth, and swallows.

MARK CHECKLEY, known for many years as a salt tamer, pugilist, etc., committed suicide in a cell at a Toronto, Can., station-house Jan. 20. He had been arrested on suspicion of having stolen a gold ring and was locked in the cell. He took a wool blanket and threw it against the wall, fastened it to the bar of the cell and slowly strangled himself.

BILLY MILLIGAN, now with "True Blue," has signed with Frank A. Robbins for the tenting season.

EMIL BENJINGER, who had been in the variety business and in Chicago the other day, as related in our last column. He was one of the best in his kind.

HARRY WILLIAMS of the New York Museum made flying trip to Sandusky, O., last week to contract with the "Lion's Picnic" Co. for open house at Havana, Cuba.

There is to be a judgment on Feb. 27, at 8 o'clock, "Pleasant Hour," (Hoboken, N. J.), Feb. 8.

An unintentional warning made us say that Edw. P. Rogers might be wrong in wanting men for heavy awakened by the dog "Gai" at the time of the recent fire. It was not so, as his register-book readily shows the contrary. He is the legal possessor of a collar ring ornamented with solid ivory.

CHARLES BIBB's death is recorded this week too.

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PROFESSIONALS' BUREAU.

**Wants of Managers and Performers
Press Notices, Vacant Dates, etc.**

DRAMATIC.

E. O. Rogers offers for sale a one-half interest in Pavilion Opera house, a large portable edifice constructed for dramatic purposes, and furnished with stage, scenery, costumes, horses, etc., all ready to set up at day's notice.

Charles Cowley, Yankee comedian, en route with J. Oakes Co., gives his permanent address in card.

John J. Smith advertises that he wants men for heavy juvenile business to double in brass, together with a few old women. See card.

Edw. P. Rogers, of Wyandotte, Mich., is now booked shows for 1896 and '97.

A whole or a half interest in Connelly's Theatre and signs, Detroit, Mich., is advertised for sale. This establishment is situated in the heart of the city.

At the People's Theatre, London, Ont., manager combinations playing at popular prices can secure professional players, waiting to learn places without no reference to Chas. C. Mottick's card.

J. F. Smith advertises that he would be pleased to turn over his opera company to any manager who would like to hear from a good opera company.

Professional and amateur can have songs taught, arranged, recording, s. 229 Bowers.

Guitar players, wishing to learn places without no reference to Chas. C. Mottick's card.

V. F. Smith advertises that he would be pleased to turn over his opera company to any manager who would like to hear from a good opera company.

J. F. Smith advertises that he is at liberty for singing business or stage-director.

Geo. W. Stockton advertises for two first class character comedians and ladies and gentlemen who can sing and dance and opera companies. He also wants pianists and musicians.

Two good actors and two actresses for general business are wanted by Walter Ogden Co. See card for full particulars. Mes. Neville and her son Augustus will stage a play in Brooklyn, N. Y., in their sensational comedy "My Train, of the Kansas Mother," supported by a strong cast of experienced players.

Josephson's card.

Edwin Browne and his company in the drama "The Two Faces of Love" will find a wide and profitable play having given great satisfaction. He will stage a score with his band and orchestra, and the secretary Mary Figgis have been pronounced marvellously successful. Manager Chas. H. Haystack will find Browne's address in card, together with a warm endorsement from J. H. Parante of New Orleans.

See card by Walter Ogden Co. in separate dir. page.

Owen O'Connor's Hamlet in a card in our business directory. Henry D. Sanders, manager of the Opera House, New York, N. Y., says he is the best actor who has ever appeared on the stage.

Villinger's Opera house, Jerseyville, Ill., seeks strolling players. Manager Jos. E. Cory mourns because the local talent is so poor.

A card in another column seeks a partner to manage popular young actress.

For further particulars, Schenckfeldt, N. Y., wants a traction for Washington's Birthday, Minstrels, please see Manager D. R. Smith's call.

On second page 750.

10

THOS. F. GUNNING, the well-known catcher of the Boston Club, is at the head of a movement to tender Charley Foley a benefit, to take place Feb. 21, in Boston. Charley is very poor in health and purse, and his many friends, including some of the most prominent residents of the Hub, are working hard to make the benefit a financial success. Tickets have been fixed at one dollar each, and can be had from Thos. F. Gunning, 50 Shawmut avenue, Boston, Mass.

CLEVELAND, O., reports that Eugene Carter "in the course of a few days, make up his mind" as to whether he will enter into the proposed sweepstakes tournament in Chicago. Professionals in the latter city are confident that his decision will be in the affirmative.

CAPT. JAMES E. BOYLE left Chicago for this city on Jan. 28.

A MEETING of the stockholders of the National Club of Washington was held Jan. 30 in regard to

securing new grounds for next season. The matter was finally left to a committee of three.

T. P. SULLIVAN claims that his club is the only one in Kansas City. He forgot that another club is being organized to represent that city in the National League.

THE ACME CLUB, the amateur champions of this city, will give their seventh annual ball March 6 at the Belmont.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., will be represented in the North-western League by a team under the management of Al. Swift.

A FORMAL APPLICATION has been made by the Troy Club for admission to the New York State League.

AN EXHIBITION GAME will be played April 5 in Atlanta, Ga., between the Pittsburg and Chicago Clubs.

ED. WILLIAMSON of the Chicago Club is spending the winter in this city.

WE HAVE letters for Robt. Ferguson.

TRIGGER

WALNUT HILL.

Result of shooting Jan. 30: Rest Match—D. L. Chase, 95; W. Charles, 95; S. Winchester, 94. Prize Winners, Decimal Handicap Match—F. J. Rabbeith, 333; N. W. Hinman, 344; J. N. Frye, 341; C. E. Berry, 333; N. T. Tuffs, 325; A. B. Archer, 318; E. R. Southern, 315; H. Withington, 314; B. G. Warren, 301; W. C. Johnston, 228. Prize Winners Rest Match—F. J. Rabbeith, 456; D. L. Chase, 495; W. W. Graham, 491; S. Wilder, 490; C. W. Hinman, 478; N. Washburn, 455. Decimal Off-hand Match—J. N. Frye, 82; N. T. Tuffs, 80; J. R. Missam, 75; E. R. Southern, 72; W. C. Johnston, 61. Victory Medal Match—A. C. Waite, 88; H. Worcester, 83; H. Cushing, 83; H. Cambridge, 82. Military Match—A. C. Gould, 74; F. Carter, 67; W. Henry, 59.

THE HAWAIIAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION held their first practice-shoot at Kapiolani Park, Honolulu, H. I., on New Year's Day. Result: H. R. A. Trophy, value \$150, ten rounds, 200 and 500 yards—F. J. Higgins, 82 out of 100; W. Unger, 80; Dr. Brodie, 78. Match, 200 yards, ten rounds—W. Unger first, 43; J. N. Williams, 41; E. Hingley, 41. Brodie Medal, value \$50—W. Unger, 42; F. J. Higgins, 41. Consolation-shoot—J. Rothwell, 19 out of 25.

This annual international pigeon-shooting tournament at Monaco opened Jan. 16, when the event at issue was the Grande Poule D'Essai, a prize of 2,000 francs, added to a sweepstakes of \$20 each, six pigeons each—two at 24 metres, two at 26 and two at 27; only those killing all being allowed in the deciding round. These were Mr. Monge, Edgar Marjany, M. Ghidra, Mr. Sedon, M. L. Maskens, M. Pinson and Gulespina Riva. Monge won the first prize, Ghidra the second, Seaton the third and Maskens the fourth.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH.—France and Belgium are now arranging the terms of an international military rifle match, which will be shot at some point near Paris early in the coming summer. The distances will include the short and mid-ranges, but very few favor including the long ranges. One of the conditions suggested is for contestants to shoot their opponents' arms at the short range and their own at the mid-ranges. The Belgians will use the Colnabain rifle, and the French are to be permitted to choose from any arm in use in European armies.

PIGEON MATCH.—During the snowstorm on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 30, W. W. Lever of Elizabeth and Samuel Badgely of Montclair shot a match at twenty-five single birds each, one barrel, mid, trap and handle, for \$200 a side, at Bird's grounds, near Newark, N. J. Badgely, who ended at 25 birds, near the trap, with a score of 20 out of 24 shot at, to Lever's (28yds.) 18.

TOWNSHIP DEFEATS BEL.—A match at fifty birds each was shot by J. Townsend and J. Bell at the Woodbine, Toronto, Ont., Jan. 29, the former winning by a score of 39 to 24. Afterwards a match was made between Beliden and Wilson, double rifles, ten pairs, the former winning by a score of 15 to 12.

THE Essex Amateur Rifle Club of Newark, N. J., recently elected these officers: President, Roger Marshall; vice, C. H. Miesel; treasurer and recording secretary, J. H. Huegel; financial secretary, Wm. R. Felt; captain, John Coppersmith; sergeant-at-arms, John Doon.

The Thirty-first Grey Battalion Rifle Association held a meeting at Wyand, Ont., Jan. 28, adopted a constitution and by-laws and elected these officers: President, B. Lieut. Col. Telford; vice, Capt. McDonald; secretary-treasurer, Lieut. McLean.

THE Nimrod Gun Club of Newark, N. J., is now offered by: President, Roger M. Williams; vice, Warren Gobie; recording secretary, Frederick Klein; financial secretary, Wm. J. Beatty; treasurer, O. E. Bedford.

A GOLD medal was shot for by members of the Essex Rifle Club of Newark, N. J., Jan. 28, Dutchler led with 49 out of a possible 50; R. Marshall, 45; A. Lake, 48; Charles Cooper, 48; John H. Huegel, 47; F. Helms, 47.

THE Camden (N. J.) Shooting Association have elected the following: President, John Hope; secretary, W. W. Volker; treasurer, C. Helms.

THE TURF.

SPORT AT BUFFALO.—Three races came off at the Buffalo (N. Y.) Driving Park Jan. 30 in presence of a good crowd of people. Result: Pacing race, free-for-all, two in three heats—Ed. Beck's Brewery Boy first, in 2:56, 2:57; Tom Wonder second, Blacksmith Girl third, in 3:00, 3:01, 3:02. In three heats, Hupp's Croquet, Goldust won third heat and Windspitter second, but both were withdrawn, leaving Croppy to trot over alone in the fourth heat. Time, 3:01½, 3:04, 3:04, 3:05. Class 2:30, trot, two in three—L. H. Eckert's Frank McCune first, Lady S. Time, 2:45, 2:46, 2:54.

LATONIA JOCKEY CLUB.—The fixed events to be decided at the meeting of this Kentucky Club have received the following number of entries: Clippetta Stakes, 63; the Harold Stakes, 55; Senaon Stakes, 53; Ripple Stakes, 63; Tobacco Stakes, 71; Cincinnati Hotel Stakes, 70; Latonia Cup, 14; Merchants' Stakes, 28; Kimball Stakes, 61; Zoo Stakes, 54; Harriet Stakes, 65; Latonia Derby, 89; Hinyar Stakes, 83; Latonia Oaks, 72.

JACOB RYNDERS, brother of the late Capt. Isaac Rynders, died at the General Hospital, Montreal, Can., Jan. 28, aged about eighty years. He went to Canada about forty years ago with a stable of race-horses, and for the last thirty years lived at St. Lawrence Hall. His funeral was attended by many prominent citizens of Montreal. The remains were placed in a vault, awaiting the order of friends from New York.

JAMES DUGREY JR. dropped considerable money during last season's campaign. He has disposed of his extensive stock of game fowl, removed from Mechanicville to Troy and opened a modest hotel there.

ELIPHALET BECKWITH, identified with trotting interests in Connecticut died suddenly Jan. 30, while driving through Thomesville. He was about sixty-five years of age.

HOPFELT, whose wagon record of a mile in 2:16½ still stands at the head of performances done in that way, is to be disposed of by rifle at the American Horse Exchange, this city, March 6.

GEORGE COVINGTON, the smart young jockey for J. S. Campbell's stable, has invested some of his money in two farms in Missouri, one of which he has decided to the old folks. Sensible lad.

T. J. McKEITHEN's racing stable, including eighteen head, will be sold at the National Horse Exchange, this city, Feb. 26.

THE track at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., will be managed this year conjointly by Edwin Thorne and Alden Goldsmith.

ABDALLAH BOY, 2:34½, by Abdallah Messenger, has been purchased by John Cogswell for \$3,000, and will be sent to a stock-farm at New Lisbon, Wis.

GEORGE RICE, the old-time trainer, has bought a fine farm near Nashville, Tenn., on which he will lay out a training track.

THE French trainer, T. Wigginton, of Chantilly, died recently.

W. P. BALCH of Boston has sold the stallion Cobden to J. L. Bailey & Son for \$2,000.

THE RING.

THE LATE JIMMY SHAW.

"Pendragon," editor of The (London) Referee, has the following to say about the veteran English pugilist and dog fancier, Jimmy Shaw, whose death (which occurred Jan. 9, at the Metropolitan Asylum) was noticed in our last issue:

"Poor old Jimmy Shaw had no social rank whatever, but he had in his day an immense amount of ability. If his record is in detail a poor and bare one—and it certainly does look very small for a man of his reputation—this is because Jimmy was so clever and so game, and such a hard hitter at his weight, that, though for years he challenged all comers, he, after what should have been simply his opening performance in the P. R., could never succeed in obtaining a customer. My first recollections of boxing include Jimmy as conductor of the room at George Brown's in Red Lion Market. His chief business was to sell gin out of a bottle—this was his special prerogative, and was supposed to be entirely for his own benefit—and to discharge stereotyped comicalities upon the devoted heads of boxers who were not overburdened with ability. How well I can remember that first night, and my noticing that Jimmy had only one eye, a fact that he endeavored to conceal by means of a glass substitute. Subsequently, after being some while at the Wrekin, Broad court, Bow street—now pulled down—he had a house on the Five Dials, within a few doors of the chapel wherein Napper and Davis fought their memorable glove-fight."

The funeral took place from Mr. Coveney's, Cowcross street, Jan. 15, the interment being in Brompton Cemetery. The hearse was followed by a mourning coach containing members of the deceased's family, and numerous vehicles of various kinds brought up the rear. On arriving at the cemetery, the coffin was taken to the chapel, and, after the first part of the burial service had been read, a procession was formed to the grave, where the concluding portion of the ceremony took place. Among those who had assembled to pay a last tribute of respect to poor old Shaw were Harry Brunton, W. Parker, D. Bedford, George Brown, Ted Whybrow, Bob Turner, C. Perry, Fred Oliver, Dick Harker, Joe Garwood, J. Gordon, Sr., George Langham, Will Strachan, B. Wainwright, Jim Handley, Nat Perry, and Jim Oliver. The wreaths which had been sent by numerous friends completely covered the coffin, and it was with some difficulty that the assembled spectators were enabled to distinguish the hearse, upon which was inscribed: "James Shaw, died Jan. 9, 1886, aged 73 years."

UNEVENLY MATCHED.—A contest with hard gloves, for a purse of one hundred dollars, took place in Philadelphia Jan. 28, between Tom Tuily of that city, and Barney Gill, from New York. The latter was heavily handicapped by being twenty pounds the lighter man, but he fought gamely against the big odds, which, however, told their inevitable tale, and after they had been together one minute in the fourth round, he dropped his hands and gave up, being too weak to continue.

JOHN ASHTON and Steve Taylor are to box nightly this week at the Theatre Comique, Philadelphia. Ashton is said to have made a smashing block of Jim Donnelly of Pittsburgh on Monday evening, Feb. 1. He knocked his man down eight times and put him to sleep in the second round.

MARK CHECKLEY, who has figured in several public glove-contests and was a well-known character in and around Toronto, Ont., on Jan. 20, committed suicide by strangling himself in the police-station there. While he had been put after being arrested on suspicion of having stolen a gold ring.

JACK BRUGESS had all the worst of a set-to with Mike Bowden at the Theatre Comique, Philadelphia, Jan. 27. On the 29th Bowden fell against a tough customer in Jack Dougherty, who completely over-matched him and twice knocked him to his knees. Frank Gray proved too good a man for Jake Tuily in an off-hand scrap for a small purse in Elizabeth, N. J., Jan. 30. They fought according to London P. R. rules, using hard gloves, and Tuily gave in when he was able to have fought longer.

JACK BURKE and another good glove manipulator of his own selection, are to spar at the Vine-street Opera-house, Cincinnati, O., Feb. 4, 5, 6. This will be Jack's first appearance in Portville.

JACK MCATIFFE and Pete Dally of Bangor, Me., are announced to box to a finish at that place Feb. 22, for a scalp.

MEMPHIS, TENN., has postponed her glove-rapping between Jack Gallagher and Dick Cummings to Feb. 6.

JACK BURKE and William McFarlane, Braddock's coal miner, spaired four rounds, scientific points, at the Grand Central Hall, Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 31. Burke was the victor, and he was a real fighter, although McFarlane displayed considerable science.

FIZZLE.—The glove-contest for a purse of five hundred dollars that was to have taken place in Philadelphia last week between Jack Kelly and Jack Kelly did not come off owing to Kelly refusing to fight.

CHESS.

THE NEW YORK CLUB TOURNEY.

The club tourney for the championship of the New York Chess Club is rapidly approaching its close and the games increase in interest each week. The record to Feb. 1 shows the players who have won the majority of the games, and the following relative positions in games which count as won and lost, including drawn games.

Player.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Games.
W. L. Marshall	12	1	1	14
E. Kallenbach	28	11	1	40
Delmar	28	12	1	41
W. L. Marshall	19	13	1	33
Helfield	27	13	1	41
Fitch	24	17	1	42
Larkin	18	17	1	36
W. L. Marshall	17	17	1	35

W. L. Marshall is the leader, and is tied with Fitch. All the others have lost more games than they have won. Mr. Talbot has withdrawn, the games he played in are thrown out of the New York Chess Club has come into prominence since Mr. Lloyd has become the president.

STEINITZ vs. ZUKERTORT.

These players arrived in St. Louis on Jan. 30. The visitors were given a cordial reception. They will begin the sixth game of their series at the Chess Club Hall Feb. 3, at 2 P. M. The New York Chess Club, Cafe Loggia, in the Bowery, with a spirit of liberality very creditable and generous, has arranged to have the chess players of the games in St. Louis telegraphed to their rooms in such a manner as to make the playing of the games as interesting to the occupants of the club rooms as the players as to those in the hall in St. Louis.

WHY NOT?

When women loves, and will not show it,
What can her lover do?
I asked a scholar and a poet,
But neither was fool enough to know it;
So, lady, I ask you.

Were you in love (let me suppose it),
What should your lover do?
You know you love him, and he knows it;
Oh! why not, then, tell him so close it?
As his love to you?

—R. H. STODDARD in The Independent.

A RAVEN KILLS A DUCK.

Gilfach, near St. Clears, South Wales, is prettily situated on a commanding extensive view of Carmarthen Bay, and, though in many respects somewhat old-fashioned, has some fine plantations about it, and in the grounds there is an ornamental pond or two. Some years ago, on a Sunday morning, when all was quiet, no one moving about, and nothing to be seen but the water, a raven lighted upon an ash tree overhanging the water, and from his elevated perch watched the ducks that were swimming below him. Those ducks were not young ones; they were the old stock, and were not only full-grown, but some years old. Prompted apparently by hunger, the raven made an unexpected dart from the tree and pounced upon the duck, literally scalping him and killing him at once. The duck was a favorite, and a fine bird; but being evidently unprepared for such an attack, he made no defense, but fell an easy victim to the raven, which then went back to his perch. The occurrence was seen from the windows of the house, and the proprietor, getting his gun, went upstairs, and, firing from the windows, the raven's death was as sudden as that of the duck.—London Field.

STRAY TIPS.

Andrew Paolitzki was fatally injured Jan. 25 by falling from the main tower of the ice palace at St. Paul, Minn.

"Yes," said a Frenchman in Paris recently, "I was walking in Place Vendome when a poor woman, with two children, attracted my attention. They were suffering. I stopped them. The husband had died that morning, and they were penniless. I went to their home and there I saw the poor father. I gave them money and left the home of sorrow. I thought when I reached the street that I had not given them enough, and I mounted the three flights of stairs. I knocked at the door, and the poor dead father opened it. I left."

Thomas Kay urges that bottles containing citrate of silver be stowed away in life-boats. Seven ounces of the citrate will turn enough seawater into drinking-water to supply a man for a week.

The Fishery Commission are to attempt the acclimatization of codfish in the Gulf of Mexico.

In a trap baited with a live goose, a farmer in Harnett County, N. C., recently captured a bald eagle whose wings measured ten feet from tip to tip. The bird had been ravaging the vicinity for many weeks, carrying off large numbers of poultry and sheep.

The Netaska Toboggan Club was organized in Stillwater, Minn., Jan. 25, with these officers: President, George Cushing; vice, Mrs. George M. Brush; treasurer, Miss Mattie D. Alcott; secretary, Dr. C. W. Merry.

The old Indian tavern at Morristown, N. J., is soon to be demolished. It is said to have been erected about 1740, and that when the American army was quartered on the hills about Morristown in the winter of 1777, General Washington there took the rites of Freemasonry. A grand ball was also given by the officers of the army, the tickets being \$300 Continental money.

The French have looked with alarm upon the steady export of Percheron horses to the United States; but the most prominent breeders there now say that the progeny of these horses raised in the United States are an improvement upon the stock, and that it is profitable to reimport. It is known that Napoleon III used to import Percheron horses from Vermont for the post-chaises which he used so much.

The Eastern Field Trials Club a few days ago elected the following officers: President, B. F. Wilson; vice-presidents, J. O. Donner and Elliot Smith; secretary and treasurer, Washington A. Coster, Flatbush, L. I.

The popular Canadian boniface, Mr. Lumpkin, has purchased the property of Mr. Wiseman at Outremont, and intends opening another resort for snowshoes, similar to his favorite hotel at Cote des Neiges.

Yesterday afternoon an Irishman went into a Griswold-street restaurant and called for a dozen raw oysters. "These are large oysters," he never saw such a beard on oysters before," he said on this oysters? How lovely, where's the meat?" The waiter, who was a Frenchman, said, "What kind of a restaurant is this? Be heavens! O'live had butler and hash that ought to be shaved, but the devil take oysters that's got whiskers!"—Detroit Journal.

The Langlade Snowshoe and Toboggan Club of Worcester, Mass., opened their slide at Sunnyside, in the suburbs, Jan. 25.

Phil Kearney Post, No. 8, G. A. R., will hold their annual entertainment and ball at Irving Hall, this city, on Thursday evening, Feb. 4. The entertainment, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, etc., begins at 8 P. M.

The gambling-house at No. 134 Clark street, Chicago, was raided Jan. 25. Two hundred and twenty persons were captured. A big haul.

Terrapins are growing scarce in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, thanks mainly to the fox.

At a fancy-dress ball in Agoutine, Australia, a lady who appeared as "Sport, the Spirit of the Times," wore a pink satin bodice, on the front and back of which were pictures of horses. Upon her skirt were painted the Puritan and Genesha, her sleeves were decorated with a painting of a foot miller and a horse-plaiger, her skirt was decorated with a picture of a horse, and on which a painted scene showed ladies playing tennis and croquet. Her cap and sash were gold, the colors of the trotter George Daring.

The Newton Fish and Game Association was organized in Newark, N. J., Jan. 27, with these officers: President, Charles F. Fountain; vice-president, secretary and treasurer, Andrew B. Brickner.

William H. Wilkins, formerly proprietor of the Fourth-avenue Stage Line and co-proprietor with J. W. Marshall of the Madison-avenue Stage Line, died on his farm in Westchester County Jan. 25.

The Royal House of Toboggan Club was recently organized in St. Paul, with the following officers: President, H. S. Jaynes; vice, F. J. Corio; secretary, J. S. McCullough; treasurer, H. M. Pearce; captain, Stanley Proudfoot; lieutenant, M. F. Bagley.

John Quinlan, who in the days of the United States was a popular figure in the arena of United States, Rose Company 25, and who was well known as a politician and sporting man, died Jan. 27, of pneumonia, at St. Vincent's Hospital, this city. He was buried 30, from the residence of his brother-in-law, John W. McGinnis. Many "old-timers" attended the funeral.

A four battle cocking main was fought in a barn near Oaktree, N. J., Jan. 30, between New Brunswick and Plainfield birds. Plainfield won two battles, New Brunswick one and the fourth was a draw. After the main a white bulldog from Staten Island was spotted against a wonderful rope, and a New Brunswick, the Staten Island dog lost an ear and part of his tail, and though victorious the New Brunswick dog was terribly mutilated.

An outdoor lawn-tennis tournament, open to all, will be held Feb. 22 in San Francisco, under the auspices of the California L. C.

The Kentucky and Tennessee Club will hold their competitive trials this year at High Point, N. C., commencing Nov. 22.

The Onetoa Toboggan Club was organized at St. Paul, Minn., last week. Officers: President, C. F. Wetherill; vice, Miss Foulkner; secretary, A. H. Crockett; treasurer, Mrs. Crockett; captain, J. V. Crockett.

Birds belonging respectively to Philadelphia and Pittsburg, Pa., fought a main for \$25 a battle and \$400 the odd in Youngstown, O., Jan. 30, the former capturing five of the seven matches decided.

The checker match between Heffner and Barker for the championship, in Providence, R. I., continues remarkably close. The score evening of Jan. 30 stood: Barker 1, Heffner 0, drawn 36.

St. Louis, Mo., and Dallas, Texas, fanciers are to fight a main of cocks at the latter place commencing Feb. 22, and continuing a week. The stakes are \$200 a side each battle and \$2,000 on the main.

California is to have a State firemen's tournament for prizes more valuable than ever before, commencing May 10.

Fred A. Tolmire has been elected president and F. L. Frost secretary and treasurer of the Chess Association at the Albany (N. Y.) Academy.

Peter Dwyer, the alleged reformed "tough," disappeared from this city last week, and is supposed to have gone to California in company with his good-looking organist and her mother. He left a wife and children here. Perhaps he will resume his missionary work among the Golden Gate.

The show of the New York Fanciers' Club opens at Madison-square Garden this (Wednesday) evening, and will close 10. The show will include pigeons, poultry, dogs, hares, rabbits, squirrels, etc. The entries are unusually numerous. Harry Jennings proposes to have a large cage of live rats on hand and to give exhibitions of handling the rodents.

The shuttleboard match between Wm. Nunley and Ed. Atchison in Newark, N. J., last week was won by the former by a score of 300 to 220.

The Oddtown (Me.) skating rink, erected at a cost of over \$2,000, was on Jan. 29 demolished by the weight of snow on the roof.

The Troy and Schenectady cocking main at Rotterdam Jan. 28 was won by Troy (main was for \$500 a side, with \$25 on each battle. Out of twenty-five battles fifteen fell. Troy won the first four battles and Schenectady the fifth. Troy winning the next five and the money. Another main is looked for during February. Toward daylight some of the Schenectady sports charged unfairness, and a general quarrel ensued, during which the Schenectady men tried to clear out the place. Paddy Ryan took a hand in, threw seven Schenectady sports out of a window, and all was serene.

A sea-bass weighing fifty-five pounds was caught off Fire Island, L. I., last week.

Westchester County, N. Y., and Fairfield County, Ct., recently fought each other in three fights. On Jan. 16, nine battles were contested, each for \$50, with \$250 on the main, and the Connecticut roosters won five fights.

The California Kennel Club held a meeting in San Francisco Jan. 15, at which a number of new members were elected and a code to govern future trials was adopted.

Bombay's Daughter, 38,829, the Jersey belle that, in April, 1884, at eight months old, sold at auction for \$5,200, the highest auction price to date for so young a Jersey, recently dropped a heifer calf by Prince Fovis, 11,657, son of the great Canadian Jersey cow Mary Anne of St. Lambert, 9,770. This calf also possesses the blood of the great cows Barotus, 2,454, and Bomba, 10,000—cows of national reputation for their enormous yields of butter.

FREE LANCES.

A-riding, a-riding in the growing morning light!
The bugles blow and all a-row our lances glitter bright.

Along the winding river, beside the beached sea,
By lonely tower, or high-walled town, or heathly wastes of lea;

Where'er we go, whatever cause our good right arms may claim,
God guide us, merry gentlemen, and keep our swords from shame!

We cater for no lady's whims, we serve nor church nor lord;
But worship upon God's green hills and love our own bright words.

Let friars pray, and strappings love, and courtiers bend the knee,
While blood is hot and muscle firm our hearts and hands are free.

A-riding, a-riding—the East is all a flame!
God guide us, merry gentlemen, and keep our swords from shame.

OUR SHADOW.

You no doubt have often heard stories of men falling in love with actresses and following them from city to city, seemingly satisfied by gazing each night on the creature who infuriated them. The newspapers often give full particulars of such romantic attachments, but, as I think this story varies a little from those that have been published, I will relate it.

Maude Powers was an orphan and for many years had lived in the city of Bethayres. Her father had accumulated a nice little fortune in the pork business, and then, very considerably, had shut out of the mortal coil, leaving Maude well provided with money. The city of Bethayres was a fair-sized place, and as there were several large manufacturing establishments there, the opera-house was open two and three nights a week during the season. Maude was a constant attendant at these performances, and gradually became inoculated with that disease which is so prevalent in this country—namely, an intense desire to go on the stage. Being blessed with what she considered a fortune, she was not content to commence at the bottom round of the ladder and, by persistence and close study, gradually rise to the summit of her ambition, but she made up her mind to at once blossom forth as a star.

Correspondence with an "old professional," who for monetary considerations was giving the results of his many years of stage experience to amateurs, secured for her a ready-made company. The lengthy experience of said "old professional" consisted of two years' travel with an Uncle Tom party as property-man and programmer, but Maude knew nothing of this. A few lessons from him were enough, and Maude, having adopted the stage name of Clara, was prepared to receive the offers from managers who desired to secure the services of a capable actress. The offers did not come, and then the "old professional" suggested that she organize a company of her own, and by her success prove to the obstinate managers that they had committed a grievous error in not securing her. At this Maude came long to secure her consent, the "old professional" was appointed manager, a company was engaged and all the preliminaries for a starting tour were arranged. It happened to be one of the supporting company, hence my knowledge of subsequent events.

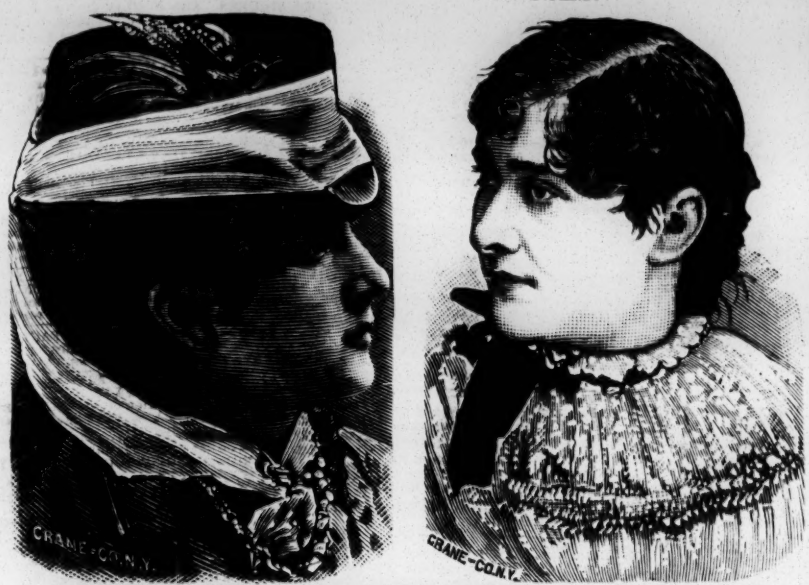
Our first stand was at Bethayres, and we were to give the citizens of that place a week of legitimate drama. The first night the house was packed, and during the first act the applause was hearty, especially when our star appeared. Being all friends of Clara, as I shall presently say, they looked her up and acting in that fact, but she did worse and worse after that, floundering around like a yacht without a rudder in a storm, they commenced to leave the house, until, at the commencement of the last act, the audience did not number fifty people. Clara was much discouraged, and how could she be? The "old professional" talked of non-appreciation of genius, throwing pearls before swine, and other allusions which made her believe it was the low standard of intelligence on the part of the audience that caused the failure.

Genius was appreciated during the rest of the week by the party, and on Saturday night found quite a respectable hole in the bank account of Clara De Ville. This did not deter her from seeking fame and fortune in other towns, where she was not so well known as in Bethayres. We continued on the route which had been laid out for the "old professional" and a wonderful route it was. We played towns I never heard of before, and hope I never shall see or hear of again. We were looking for a place where genius would be appreciated, said genius being supposed to be concentrated in the person of Clara De Ville, but the drop of approval was short, and the next town we never took in enough to pay expenses. The company could not grow, as salaries were paid regularly, but I felt sure that the starting tour of "genius" would soon come to an end, for the "old professional" was constantly beseeching Clara to settle down and give up the stage, which had been contracted. She did not seem inclined to do so, and it was no wonder, for the running expenses of the show were a constant drain on her little fortune, and to settle the large printing bill would no doubt settle the fate of the De Ville Dramatic Co.

It was at the town of Xenia that we first noticed "Our Shadow." He was not a very disagreeable shadow, being a young man about thirty years of age, dressed in fashionable garments and having the appearance of a well-to-do business man. He occupied a front seat that night, and seemed to pay particular attention to all that was done on the stage.

The next night, in the town of Phenixville, we saw him again. He again occupied a front seat and watched the performance with seeming interest. Every night after that "Our Shadow" was present at our performances. No one knew anything about him except that he always paid his way into the show and was present at each place where we were billed. The members of the company soon learned to look for him, but none of them could

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GOOD AS GOLD
Pronounce it a Matchless Performance. WILL GAGE and his Band and Orchestra
Score a Hit. The Second effort by J. B. PIGGOT promises Marvels of Beauty.
The Press Eulogize, the Public Praise, and SIG. FARANTI Endorses.

EDWIN BROWNE, ESQ., MANAGER "GOOD AS GOLD" CO.—DEAR SIR: Allow me to congratulate you on your
success during the past week. The universal verdict of my patrons has been that your play is as good as any now
before the public, and your company, band and orchestra are unexcelled. Shall be pleased to play you again, and can
HONESTLY RECOMMEND YOU TO BROTHER MANAGERS. Your combination is one of the strongest we have ever played, having given great satisfaction to the public. Your
scenery is the finest carried by any company, and your show in every respect is as GOOD AS GOLD.
Yours, respectfully, WILL A. MILLER, Business-manager Faranti's Theatre.
NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 25, 1886.
Managers having open dates address EDWIN BROWNE, Manager "Good As Gold" Combination, Columbus, Ga.

AH, THERE! THE IRISH AMBASSADOR,
EDWIN JOYCE

MADE THE BIGGEST HIT EVER MADE OF ANY SINGLE SPECIALTY IN HIS LINE THAT EVER APPEARED
AT DREW'S MUSEUM, PROVIDENCE, R. I. The man who caused the tears of laughter to trickle down the cheeks
of an audience where the best Irish Comedians in the profession appeared before, and made their exit without re-
ceiving a wrinkle, in his own original songs, MIKADO, McALLISTER, THAT'S HIM and SALLY BROWN.
PROVIDENCE, Jan. 29, 1886.—What Manager Elliott says: "Our audience proclaim Edwin Joyce the strongest
single specialty artist that ever appeared at this house, and so well pleased was I with his turn, that, after the first
day, I engaged him for the two following weeks." R. J. ELLIOTT, Manager Drew's Museum, Providence, R. I.
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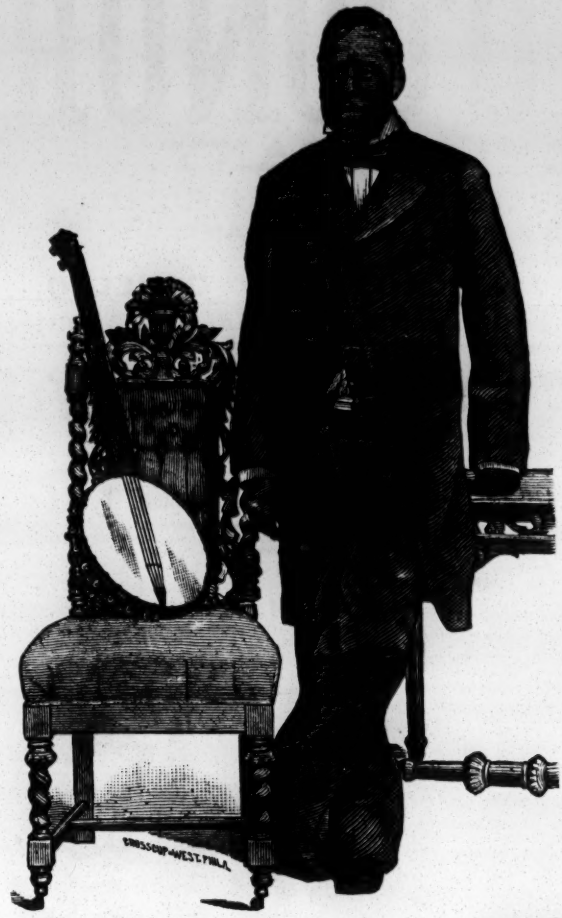
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HORACE WESTON, THE WORLD-RENOUNDED BANJOIST.



A BRIEF SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

Horace Weston was born in the town of Danbury, Ct., in the year 1825. It has been erroneously stated that he was at one time a slave, which is utterly false, as he was a free-born Yankee. His father was a musician, performer and teacher, and likewise a teacher of dancing. Horace, at seven years of age, learned to play upon the accordion in Waterbury, Ct. He progressed to second violin at ten years of age, and also the violin and double bass, slide trombone, guitar and dancing, in all of which he is an adept.

From this he began teaching dancing. In the year 1855 (the year in which S. S. Stewart, the greatest living banjo-maker, was born) Weston first began playing a banjo. He was at this position traveling in New York State, and having broken his guitar he borrowed a "tub-banjo," and sat up all night practicing, in which time he learned a couple of tunes and an accompaniment to sing to. He then struck Hartford, Ct., and secured a situation to drive a hack for a Mr. Hildfield. He made a banjo himself out of a peck measure, and in the course of a month's time he gave his employer notice and left his employ, and began playing banjo in the streets.

At the breaking out of the Civil War, in 1861, he came to Philadelphia, and thence to Harrisburg in company with ninety and nine others, for the purpose of enlisting in the United States Army. They were refused, as no colored volunteers were received at that time. He next went to Boston and shipped in the United States Navy, taking his banjo along and practicing of watch hours, and received fifty cents per month from each sailor of the crew for playing for their amusement. He afterwards went back to the navy, and being again wounded he threw his banjo overboard, and afterwards enlisted in the 5th Massachusetts Volunteers. He was discharged in the year 1863, in the month of July, and then began playing the banjo as a profession, opening in Boston, on Summer street, with Buckley's Minstrels. Later he traveled through Maine with the same company, and then to join the Georgia Colored Minstrels about the year 1867. He then went to New York and played in the Old Palace Garden in Mercer street, for a year, and then took an engagement in the Old Bowery Theatre, where he played two months. He then again joined the Georgia Minstrels and traveled through the British Provinces, after which he returned to New York and engaged with Harry Hill, where he played for a month. He then returned to Boston and opened a place during the Boston Jubilee, after which he went with Barnum's Show for the season.

In January, 1872, he engaged with the same company, New York City, next to Masonic Temple, and played there for two years. He then changed to No. 33 Bowery, at Paul Paul's saloon, and played three months; from there to Carroll's, at Twenty-second street and Sixth avenue, where he performed for two years. He next went to Robinson Hall to play, and during all these years he also taught the banjo and had a great number of pupils.

During 1876, 1877 and 1878 he played on the boat PLYMOUTH ROCK, under Jarrett & Palmer, and in 1879 was transferred to their "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Combination, and with that company sailed for Europe in August, 1879. The company opened in London, at Princess Theatre, on Oxford street, and played for three months. Here he made the great hit of his career, and performed nightly with the company, and at the same time played at the Royal Aquarium Theatre, meeting with the same success.

He then visited Berlin, meeting with immense success there, and then opened at the Italia Theatre, in Dresden, Germany, where he played six weeks, receiving a large salary. He then opened at Strauss' Theatre, in Vienna, and from there he went to Hamburg, and thence to France, and returned to America after one year. In England he won a very peculiar seven-string banjo, in a banjo contest with an English player, which he carried home to America and presented to the late James W. Clarke. On his return home, in the year 1880, he went to New York City again and engaged with Mr. Carroll, on Sixth avenue. (It was in this year that the artist first formed the acquaintance of S. S. Stewart, who was then just becoming known as a banjo manufacturer.) After playing awhile in New York City he joined the "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Combination again, and after leaving them joined Haverly's Georgia Minstrels, playing in Boston and New York. He then went to Coney Island for the Summer. Afterwards he joined Callender's Minstrels for a tour of the United States, playing in all the cities and towns from New York to Oregon. After leaving this party on their return trip, at Chicago, Ill., he went to Philadelphia and opened at the Broadway Gardens, under Thron's management, where he remained several weeks. Since which time he has traveled with various organizations, among which are the Smith's "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "Arkansas Traveler" Co., all the time meeting with his usual success.

Weston, in the year 1875, began to use the Clarke banjo as his favorite instrument, and continued to do so to the year 1881, when he became possessed of one of S. S. Stewart's make. At this time he had only one of Stewart's Banjos, and as he required two instruments at each performance, on account of strings becoming worn or breaking, it is of course natural to suppose that he still retained and used his old banjo. Soon afterwards he resolved to abandon all other makes of Banjo, becoming convinced that the Stewart was the most satisfactory for fine playing. Hence he came possessed of an additional banjo of Stewart's make, and from that time he has used THE STEWART BANJO EXCLUSIVELY, excepting only when he has had to replace a head or had his instrument up for repairs, when, of course, he was obliged to use other banjos for a time, but only temporarily. Hence all statements made to the effect that he used other makes of banjos, while he recommended only Stewart's make, are utterly false and gotten up for the purpose of injuring Stewart in his business.

When Weston was lately interviewed on the subject by a gentleman of inquiring mind he emphatically denounced all such stories as falsehoods, and challenges anyone to prove the truth of them.

The following letter was given after several months of very hard use of the instrument:

Having used every known make of banjo during my lifetime, I truthfully pronounce yours the very best in existence. Your instruments are very powerful, but that is not all. The principal beauty lies in the fact that upon them you can clearly distinguish the very softest notes in the largest theatres. Some banjos require to be played very hard, if you want them to be heard in a large place, but with your banjo it is just as easy to fill a large hall as a small room. I use no other banjo but yours, and nothing could induce me to play any other banjo when I had the Stewart instrument. The banjo you make is just as good as any I have ever used. I would not take a small fortune for it.

S. S. Stewart is daily at his office, in his store and factory in Philadelphia, where he superintends every part of the construction of his celebrated banjos, and with what success is well known to all experienced banjo-players and lovers of the banjo. Stewart's banjos are not manufactured outside of his place—perhaps, many miles away—like some we could name, but are made under his direct supervision, as anyone can see who calls upon him, and all who call may feel assured of a polite reception and cordial welcome, providing they do not stay too long, so as to occupy too much of his time. Mr. Stewart is a busy, practical man of business, as well as of music. If you do not find him lurking in a fancy furnished office, you must excuse that, and remember that his factory office is also a workshop. By hard work he has placed himself at the head and front of his business. His banjos are more used on the stage than any other make, notwithstanding he is one of the youngest of manufacturers. His instruments are also held in high esteem by many of the aristocracy and gentry of England and other parts of Europe, where they have an extended sale, and are so popular that various attempts have been made to imitate them by foreign makers, which he considers a decided compliment to his skill. Certain parties even now stamp their inferior instruments "STEWART MODEL," hoping thus to impose upon the uninitiated buyer; and although such imitations are not amenable to the law, yet no person having any moral honesty or mainly principle would stoop to such a manner of making a living. Yet, as there are such persons, we can only caution the buyer to see that his banjo is stamped S. S. Stewart, Phila., and numbered.

The banjo, although now very popular, is still unknown to a great many, and it will be years before a general and critical knowledge of the ART OF BANJO-PLAYING will be known. How many amateurs are there who are really due players and good readers? Here and there you can pick them out, but for one of such you will find a dozen or so very poor players. To advance THE ART of banjo-playing to the public must have a good assortment of banjo music of a good order, not too difficult, so as to discourage the aspirant, nor so trashy as to lead them into a bad taste. We must have more teachers who are competent to teach by musical notation, and we must have good instruments, not "cheese-boxes." Not long ago nearly all banjo teachers were "open and shut." "Banjo slingers," "air players," or regular "music mongers," seeking to "knock out of tune" every other teacher who came in their way, and succeeding in knocking out their own tune to infinite perfection. Now we are having better teachers, better books, better music and better banjos. Let the good work continue. We have not a particle of jealousy or ill-will for anyone in the banjo-business, let him be banjo-maker, teacher, player or composer, provided he acts in a fair and square business-like way. We are ready and always willing to extend the hand of friendship to our brothers in the business when they act on the square, but when they do not we are ready to declare open warfare, and carry it to the bitter end, and not content with much jealousy and determined opposition. A man must be a poor mortal if everybody speaks well of him and he has tread on nobody's corns. Therefore we do not consider it at all to our discredit that some people like to assail us, and others try to "down Stewart," etc. Empty vessels make the most noise and, likewise empty heads do the most talking with the poorest results.

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